

## **STR SGC Meeting March 20, 2012- Stadley Rough Media Center**

***The minutes are unofficial until approved at the next meeting.***

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm.

In attendance were parent members: B. Cirella, L. Hickey,

M. Dineen-Herzog, J. Amalfitano, L. Schechter, L. Collinge, R. Gonzalez

Teacher members: J. Sincerbeaux, M. Scott, H. Rose, D. Bussmann, and S. Mills

Public participants: J. Cherry, K. Nash,

M. Johnson-principal.

### **Approval of minutes from February 21, 2012 meeting**

**Motion:** L. Schechter/J. Sincerbeaux to approve the minutes of the February, 2012 meeting.

**Action:** Approved – unanimously

### **Public comment - 15 minutes**

The email from J. Arizzi was shared.

### **Formal meeting and conversation with Community Member candidates**

L. Schechter introduced John Cherry. He reviewed his various affiliations. M. Johnson reviewed the role of the SGC and the identified goals. A question and answer dialog followed.

**Motion:** B. Cirella/S. Mills to accept J. Cherry as one community member.

**Action:** Approved

J. Sincerbeaux passed out a bio Dr. Theresa Canada submitted. John will invite her to meet with us at the next meeting.

### **Discussion of election process for next school year and timeline**

The parents decided among themselves that L. Schechter, J. Amalfitano and B. Cirella will step down. We drew numbers to determine the two teachers who will step down.

M. Scott and D. Bussmann were drawn to step down. One departing representative from each group will sit on the election committee. Nominations will be due May 4. On May 11 the ballots will go home. Results will be announced June 1.

### **Discussion of *Epstein's Six Types of Involvement***

Some of the communication issues in J. Arizzi's email were discussed. M. Johnson reviewed the work the STR staff had done around the parent involvement area. The group broke into two to discuss parenting, communicating, volunteering and learning at home.

Group 1 brainstorming ideas

#### **Communication:**

Email the class

Facebook is not the way to go!

Text message sent via phone

**Podcast** instructional video on the level academics, community resources, PTO

Reading Nights → Explaining the reading levels  
Collection of phone numbers and emails at open house  
Newsletters Vs. Report Card

## **Learning at Home “Building Exercises”**

K Orientation  
Guidelines  
Expectations  
Beginning of the year picnic  
Core Standards and explaining the “Teaching Points”

STAFF → Exit Standards for each Grade Level

Group 2 brainstorming ideas

Parenting – what will we do to engage parents to increase their ability to help at home?  
Hold meetings in alternate locations (downtown, library, Eden Drive), possible home visits, parent mentors/ambassadors – someone to answer questions and orient parents to the school- assigned to a few new parents to call and invite them in to different things, parent welcome kit/materials- students could be involved in the creation of this for younger students, a parent center in the building – with possible staffing during specific hours, parent hotline, language resources – a contact person for translation available with parent center or on call,

Communicating – podcasts available online with various topics, curriculum and resources for helping at home, have high school students produce these, newsletters, TV studio for kids to broadcast school information, use the podcast as an incentive for students to broadcast something they know and can explain well, principal calling every kid on their birthday

Volunteering – look for new ways to get people involved – see previous ideas such as the parent center, the group sees a need for changing the culture to have more people be open to join in, there is a need to identify the leaders in our parent community who can assist, “elf night” – a mobile volunteer night where people could help with cut and paste type classroom tasks, teacher driven events get more parent respect and more people involved...so increase the opportunity for parents to come in for specific activities related to their children, parent contract type of idea – having parents commit to specific ways to be involved, interview the others who don’t come out for things, volunteer list of tasks to be done, name it differently – parents as partners, parent volunteer parking space or other ways to recognize volunteers, CAS volunteer banquet, photo of the “volunteer of the month” with their child posted in the school.

The group came back together and shared some of the ideas. We will discuss this again in May and in June choose the ideas we will go with.

Some expressed an interest in meeting sooner than May on this. The group agreed to meet at 5:00 on the April 24.

**Agenda for next meeting**

The next meeting is the third night of the parent-training course. The SGC meeting will take place at 5:00 before the training. For the May meeting we will: relook at the calendar, hold Community member discussion and have an election update.

**Motion to adjourn:** J. Amalfitano/H. Rose

**Action:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm.

The next SGC meeting will be on Tuesday, April 24 at 5:00

Respectfully submitted by:

Melinda Scott

STR SGC Co-Secretary