

STR SGC Meeting October 18, 2011- Stadley Rough Media Center

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 pm.

In attendance were parent members: B. Cirella, R. Gonzalez, L. Hickey, M. Dineen-Herzog, J. Amalfitano, L. Collinge

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

Public participants: K. Nash, R. Jannelli, J. Forzani, J. Arrizzi

M. Johnson-principal.

Approval of minutes from meeting on September 27, 2011

Motion: B. Cirella/L. Collinge to approve the September 27, 2011 minutes.

Action: Approved - unanimously

Public comment (15 minutes)

R. Jannelli- vice chair BOE- thanked parents for being involved, spoke of importance of working together, parents and community have a role as well as teachers. Work with the principal and engage parents.

J. Forzani – bilingual teacher from RPMS. His recent administrative work was in parent involvement. Conducted a parent survey of his school in June of 2009. It questioned the school and parents opinions on the children's education and interests. He left copies with us. He started a parent group for bilingual parents, a Spanish speaking parent meeting. His group met monthly. Some dialog with the group about dynamics and similarities to STR.

J. Arrizzi – supported reaching out to parents and supporting parent education. Complimented the school on reading engagement. Suggested a publication similar to The Coffee News with information to educate parents. He suggested getting community to support this. M. Johnson says there is no provision in the law for us to engage in such activities where money is involved. There is a way for this work to correlate with PTO. This group is advisory. We should establish our priorities first.

Discussion of Parent Survey

Group initiated discussion on various surveys found by group members, as well as the comments made by the public about the intimidation parents feel, and how to best include our bilingual population. Current parent participation at this school was discussed, including increased participation last year at various school events. Childcare is an issue for many families and something to be considered. Guiding questions: What do we want to know? How should we ask it? What do we plan to do with the information? How to conduct the survey? Could we offer something to people who complete the survey? Discussion continued over how and why for almost one hour in total. Final decision was M. Johnson will compile suggestions and publish a draft for review and have surveys ready for conferences.

Continue to establish SGC By-Laws

Motion: R. Gonzalez/H. Rose to table the discussion of By-Laws until the next meeting.

Action: Approved - unanimously

Agenda for next meeting

The next meeting is November 15 at 6:00 pm.

Agenda items will include:

Approval of this month's minutes

By laws

Sorting the completed surveys

Setting December's agenda

Looking ahead to December survey results discussion and community member discussion,

Discussion took place about the scheduled SCG trainings. Suggestions were made to rotate attendance. L. Hickey said she would be in attendance.

Motion to adjourn: B. Cirella/R. Gonzalez

Action: The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Melinda Scott

STR SGC Co-Secretary