

# MINUTES

November 5, 2009

Attendance: Erik Olson, Shana Heyn, Irene Rytting, Cheri Jackson, Dave Gisseman, Merry Fusselman, Leslie Evans, David Garrett (Absent Dave Havell)

## 1. Principal Report:

Performance base compensation: Merry met with other principals on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>; shared that it is a complex process. Robert Shaw, Dean of Education at Westminster agreed to help facilitate effort - focus on 3 areas: quality instruction, student achievement, community satisfaction. Friday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup> – next meeting with Dr. Shaw and team leaders.

Math Committee - Merry, Leslie, Ms. Burton, Ms. Williams, Mr Rob, and Ms Patton plus two parent volunteers will make up the committee. Merry has spoken with and sought advice from Sheri Goodman at GSD. She recommended books to read to start forming a philosophy method of teaching math and how to transition it in with other curriculum. Merry attended meeting on Singapore math; she likes it but it has its own method of teaching, books are provided to help with the transition, provides different way of solving problems, says it aligns well with Core Knowledge.

Student Progress: At recent faculty meeting Dayna Schoell helped teachers and train the TAs to identify data they have on student reading levels, provided instruction on leveled binder, helped to insure that interventions are matching up and that we're identifying the kids we need to help. Leslie and Dayna attend grade level team meetings to get feedback on student progress.

## 2. Writing Curriculum/Other:

Leslie reported that the self-assessment audit showed that Special Ed showed no findings of non-compliance; identified program improvement goals. CRA is in the process of purchasing licensing for 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> – writing assessment, will help with required summative assessment at year's end; Early review from Mr. Cook suggests a good tool.

Board Retreat: Ends & Means Paper summarized by Leslie was distributed in an earlier e-mail. The Board agreed upon the first 2 bullets and Leslie had added some additional language intended to summarize the Board's intent. Erik will edit it and the Board will be prepared to vote on it. Shana suggests the faculty understand the Ends and Means adopted.

Future Core Knowledge Conferences: The conferences on a national level have been postponed until November 2011. Due to the costs of travel, lodging and admission the Administration proposes that CRA do an "in-house" conference and provide similar workshops and experiences locally. This would be held at the school and last approximately 3- 4 days immediately after school adjourns in June. The focus would be curriculum mapping and writing better unit designs.

## 3. PTA Report:

Kim Goddard talked in some detail about the PTA budget and calendaring items for the balance of the school year. She also discussed that on the school website are instructions on ordering uniforms with the CRA insignia; In February will be grandparents day allowing the student's grandparents to come and have breakfast at the school; a discussion was had on the budget and the importance of having that advertised well to PTA members so members can vote and participate during amendments to the budget. Kim indicated that \$5,300 had been donated thus far from corporate/direct donations. Budgets difficult to plan because they never know what actual income will be; Bumped up PTA field trip contribution to \$10k/year. PTA has purchased some recess equipment to date. Erik said based on recent advice from legal counsel that the school can fundraise, wants us to think about particular initiatives the school can take, how to fundraise, who to target, what population to look for. Suggests we organize a foundation as a subsidiary to CRA. Discussion of Impact Soccer club being prepared to put more money into watering field. Erik suggests that Impact write a proposal regarding their specific wishes and submit that to the David Garrett who will in turn make recommendations to Board and GSD. Spoke briefly about volunteer initiatives if needed.

4. Budget: P & L Reviewed/notes. Budget fiscally sound.

Approved benefits for Lunch Manager; Made specific distinctions on who is eligible including the custodian, administration, teaching staff, lunch manager; Erik suggests that the salary be set by administration with discretion to set amount and determine benefits.

5. H1N1 Clinic/Attendance Report: school-wide absences up during final week of October, peaked on Nov 2<sup>nd</sup> with 66 absences plus 11 kids more checked themselves out ill during the course of the day. Represents 15% of student body. CRA is hosting a H1N1 clinic – Nov 12<sup>th</sup>. 6 mos to 24 yrs of age unless one meets certain conditions.

Other: Mad Science Summer Camps: should CRA host summer camps? Potential payment could come in various ways - Flat fee, facility fee, % of gross sales, or charge \$10 per child; they also offer in-class field trips, \$130 – one hour workshop, hands-on experiments, possible trade - may help with CRT scores – could be a long shot however; board willing to give it a try.

Discussion on Private/Corporate Donors. Board to review and make recommendations of their own at next Board meeting.

Attendance: Discussed ways that the school could impose penalties or incentives to encourage more consistent attendance at school. Goal is to have kids at school and at school on-time so they are learning and improving.

Next meeting: December 18.