Elementary Restructuring Task Force

Minutes Elementary Restructuring Task Force
Week 1
Wednesday, September 21, 2011

Meeting was held at the Central Services Building, September 21, 2011 from 3:30 p.m. -5:00 p.m.
Dr. Jane Pryne facilitated the meeting.

Introduction:
Dr. Pryne opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and discussing the purpose of the Elementary Restructuring Task Force.

Members in Attendance:
Sarah Methner, Patti Happe, Kate Wenzl, Laura Levine, Amity Butler, Cynthia Green, Claire Rausch, Walt Mozingo, Gary Pringle, Trent Pomeroy, Pauline Marvin, Michelle Olson, Evan Murphy, Gretchen O'Brien, Doug Hayman, Stacey Nickerson, Teresa Beckstrom, Anne Mitchell, Coya Erickson, Tim Ochs, John Kilzer, Teresa Bond, Jim Varela, Julie Smith, Karen Ross, Michele Haworth, Michelle Reid, Jane Pryne

Members Absent:
Lisa Lisk, Kathy Crowley, Chris Baker

Purpose of the Task Force

- Determine the sustainability of the current resources allocated across the elementary system.
- Research the most efficient, effective organizational structure over the next five years for our elementary schools.
- Make a recommendation to the Board of Directors on the next course of action

Strategic Plan
Goal 3: Resources
Objective 1: Create a more efficient and equitable resource distribution system
Objective 2: Create an infrastructure that supports student learning
Action Item 1: Create a Task Force to study the restructuring of elementary education

Agenda
The Agenda and the notebook for Week 1 were reviewed.

- Reviewed Strategic Plan outline
- Reviewed School calendar
- Discussed contents of the PowerPoint
- Viewed video on the Pink Bat
- Presented Analytical Decision Making Model
- Discussed and agreed upon when Consensus and Majority Rule decision making would be utilized
- Presented data on past, current and projected enrollment for the five elementary schools

Meeting Norms

Meeting norms were listed, and discussed. Ultimately the norms agreed upon by the Task Force are:

- All decisions are based on what is best for kids
- One person speaks at a time
- Feel free to take break
- Address the point, not the person
- Get to the point
- Begin and end on time
- Ask clarifying questions
- Value diversity
- Give facilitator authority to end topic
- Avoid side lot conversations
- Leave meeting without tension
- Agree on talking points
- There are no stupid ideas
- Avoid parking lot conversations
- Don't pit one entity against the other
- Respond to ideas

Decision Making

Discussion and agreement regarding Consensus Decision-Making:

- Inclusive of all members
- Agreement Seeking
- Process Oriented
- Collaborative
- Relationship Building
- Whole Group Thinking – District-Wide – Global – Big Picture

Majority Rule

Discussion regarding Majority Rule:

- Majority Rule – more than half or super majority vote votes on 65%
- Once voted upon, all agree to support the decision.
- The ultimate decision comes from the Board of Directors
- Question was posed: Can there be a two-tier system?

Discussion and decision on the choices for Majority Rule:

1. Do we need 50%+1 (simple majority); or
2. 65%; or
3. 67%?

The group voted that 65% of the participants need to agree upon the decision in order for it to pass.

Discussion and clarification on Confidentiality Items:

- Keep anonymity.
- No names in minutes.
- Only facilitator will be quoted.
- When talking to people utilize our agreed upon Talking Points.

Minutes and Talking Points

- Minutes and talking points will be available for the Task Force first thing in the morning the day following the meeting. After Task Force has had a chance to make corrections to minutes and talking points then they will be sent to District Staff at 5:00 p.m. that day.
- Minutes and Talking Points will posted on the District Website Friday after the meeting.

Wrap-Up

- Talking points decided upon prior to leaving the meeting.
- Follow up topics for the next meeting will be presented.

Meeting Closing:

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attachments: Agenda, PowerPoint, Consensus and Majority Rule info; enrollment trends graphs, and article will be posted on the website on Friday.