

Midvale Middle SCC minutes Nov. 1, 2017

Attending: Alyssa Powers, Shelley Allen, Mindy Robison, Amy Skelton, Richard Hansen, Steve Brown, Willy Ray, Kip Carlson

Stacey Kratz motioned to approve minutes from last meeting, with Steve Brown seconding. Motion approved.

Principal Mindy Robison report:

We are still trying to hire a third academic interventionist, ideally to do math and mentoring. The position is for up to 28 hours. There is one open position; so there is still some extra money in that budget. We still have some money for teacher inservice in the budget, as well as supplies for kids' positive rewards.

She presented the proficiency summary report, which shows where students are NOW in terms of year-end goals (based on fall data). As a change for next year that more meaningfully reflects student progress, we may want to look at rate of improvement for students rather than this year's goal of 50% of kids in the whole school reaching proficiency.

MI (Math inventory) fall data:

This data has two parts: fluency and problem-solving. We are looking at trend data and comparisons. Sixth grade had the lowest percentage "in the red," which is why we focused our math labs on seventh and eighth grades. The district allocated USTAR funds to allow us to add four math labs starting yesterday. Parents CAN opt out of the math labs, but we look at the data and recommend that kids access the labs based on that. There currently are two seventh-grade and two eighth-grade math labs and we'd like to have one sixth-grade position to start a lab in that grade. We are very close to covering the whole school.

Enrollment is at at 919 today.

Behavior data: this includes everything teachers put in the teacher discipline log, and it is incidents, not individuals. Some individuals are the source of multiple incidents. The data is broken down by ethnicity including Hispanic, Caucasian, black, Indian, Pacific Islander, Asian, multi-race, etc.

The council briefly discussed discipline as it relates to boys. Some council members are concerned that some "boyish" behaviors are punished when they may just be how boys act (a little louder, a little more fidgety, more prone to roughhousing, etc.). We will look into boys' issues and how they relate to middle school and emotional issues. Ms. Robison mentioned that there is a class on Fridays on self-regulation. We also may need to talk to our feeder systems about this so that the feeder systems are supporting one another on these issues.

Ms. Robison also presented the Final Trust Lands Report, which showed the school not meeting the goal stated above. There was discussion about setting goals that more realistically reflect the growth going on at Midvale, such as setting benchmarks to measure significant growth rather than an arbitrary overall proficiency percentage. This will better reflect the fact that many of our students experience significant academic growth over the year but may not reach benchmark because they started so far below. Benchmarks that do not show the hard work and achievement of the students and staff are discouraging for everyone.

Shelley Allen — MYP update

TOP BRICCK focus this month: Caring.

ATL (approaches to learning) focus: Self-management (on time to class and prepared to learn).

This month, to help reinforce the characteristic of being caring, the school is participating in the Kindness Rising Campaign. They will pledge to be "fearless and kind;" for every kid who takes the pledge the organization will donate to Toys for Tots. The school will register kids' pledges on the organization's web site.

We also are doing a school-wide project that focuses on a different component of being caring or fearless each week. The first week's focus is on being inclusive. Students get a "caring card" and will write down what they did to be fearless and kind by being inclusive. The cards say, "I challenge you to follow my example and spread kindness by ..." and they write something on it and leave it somewhere to encourage people to "pass it on."

Next week, we will focus on the power of words and choosing to use kind words. They will again have a chance to put it into action using pass-on cards. This will tie back to their service reflections on how they used kind words.

The SCC also got an update from Ms. Allen on the MYP evaluation visit (scheduled for next fall).

Electives discussion:

Our electives scheduling for next year is on hold right now due to possible curriculum changes by the state school board. Ms. Robison and two other administrators are working with the curriculum departments on this and other curriculum issues. They are trying to make registration cards as similar as possible across the district while recognizing needs of individual schools.

Currently, the required curriculum includes science, social studies, math, and language arts. We want to make sure teachers still have jobs and students have elective choices.

Parents can opt out of classes they don't want their kids to have

With electives, students select one from the categories of Arts, CTE, healthy lifestyles, and foreign language. In addition, MYP requires that students take a class in all eight subject areas. But there still is parent choice or student choice.

Next meeting is December 6