

## CSC Meeting Minutes: December 6, 2012

Welcome to everyone. Thanks to Sian and Susan for bringing food and drinks.

**CSC Members Present:** Wendy Ladner; Sara McDonnell; Ksenia Popke; Susan Robertson; Whitney Colley; Lucy Pfeffer; Martha Biery; Principal Jennifer Harris; Debbie Stricker, Sara McDonnell, Betsy Sedig, Sian Miletich

**Update on Superintendent Forum:** Susan and Ksenia reported that the focus of the recent superintendent forum was on Common Core Standards.

### **HGT Update, including update from NAGT conference:**

Jennifer said that a handful of teachers attended, but many were unable to attend because of the conference being on the weekend. Staff will have a "share out" on information from the conference. Susan Robertson went to the parent day option.

**CSC Community Member Update:** Sian has been to all of the Cory-Merrill neighborhood association meetings since becoming a CSC member. She said the association is interested in creating great communication between neighborhood and schools in area. The Neighborhood Association will add school information to their website and they sent Sian's info out to 300 community members. Sian is working on preparing information about Cory. Sian also suggested that we update Cory's marketing materials.

### **UIP Update:**

Jennifer handed out the notes outlining the UIP action steps. She also discussed the book inventory that is taking place in classrooms to ensure that every classroom has required books. There is a big district wide push to have non-fiction books for students. The 4th and 5th grade teachers mentioned that they need higher level reading materials, a need that is also reflected in the UIP. Jennifer went through the action plan to update the CSC on progress.

### **Survey Committee Update and Parent/Student surveys:**

Susan mentioned there was a scheduling glitch so the survey meeting would be rescheduled. The group looked at the school satisfaction survey data from last spring (both parent and student) to see what "jumped out" at them. These surveys provide good information but also are important in the School Performance Ratings.

The biggest issue that jumped out to the CSC was lower scores related to bullying. There was discussion about the need to understand the difference between bullying and conflict. Jennifer said that the School Culture Committee is working on common language regarding conflict in the school. Martha reminded the CSC to remember that the data in the survey is from last year, and a number of things have changed in the school since then.

Should we do a parent forum on bullying?

**Office of School and Community Engagement:**

Three staff people from the Office of School and Community Engagement (Patsy Roybal, Lilian Packeko and Marisol Balanos) gave a great presentation on parent, student and family engagement. They said that thirty years of research confirms that when parents are effectively engaged in their children's education, children: earn higher grades, receive higher test scores, attend school more regularly, demonstrate more positive attitudes and behaviors, and graduate from high school at higher rates and are more likely to enroll in higher education. They stressed that there should be shared responsibility for student achievement between parents, students and teachers. They noted that communication is important throughout to ensure effective engagement by parents.

New family and community engagement standards:

- 1) creating a culture that embraces family and community engagement
- 2) volunteering, decision making and collaborating
- 3) supporting student learning and success

District expectations for parent involvement include: parents as active participants in school-based governance councils; parents as active participants on district and community initiatives; and parents as academic partners. Once relationships are built, they said, parents will do anything for teachers.

They encouraged CSC to develop a policy for parent involvement in the school, and talked about the importance of parents being involved at all grade levels. They also noted that work with staff is necessary, as well, to help them know how to most effectively use parents both in and out of the classroom, and to determine whether parent engagement at Cory is in line with the UIP.

**Adjourn Meeting - 6:03 pm**