**School Improvement Team Meeting**

**Thursday, February 15, 2024**

**3:05 – 4:00 pm – Massey Lounge**

Brenda Ulrich, Chairperson Barbara Coble, Co-Chairperson Melissa Chatman

Stephanie Slade, Parent Rep Sue Weber, Community Rep Tafie Henson

Tricia Hart Fallon Diblasio Cheryl Iannucci

Absent: Dr. Handley

Brenda Ulrich congratulated Mrs. Iannucci on submitting the accreditation and inquired as to when we will hear some results? Mrs. Iannucci stated it will be two weeks from time submitted for them to ask questions and then two months to hear back on the results (before the end of the school year).

Tricia Hart signed and reviewed the Group Norms with the Team (displayed on screen)

Barbie shared some research on the screen regarding parent involvement strategies with other schools. How do we expand and increase parent involvement. Barbie stated that at our last meeting Dr. Handley recommended that the categories list specific to types of events so we would not be committed to all the activities listed on the survey. Six types of parental involvement information by Dr. Joyce Epstein for the betterment of student learning.

* Share information to let parents know where their student should be in their developmental stage. If a student is in kindergarten, they may not be on that level yet with their education. Understanding the family element will help us to know the student better which will help us to be better educators.
* Communication with families about programs, home to school or school to home communications can be in any form examples are newsletters, email, phone calls, being consistent so parents are expecting communication.
* Volunteers with students and programs. Volunteers would need to go through background checks, and they may need certain type of training.
* Learning at home helping parents to help their children learn and study at home.
* Decision making for the school and input from families. Travel might be an issue.
* Collaboration with the community, an example is student artwork exhibited at the State Employees Credit Union. Building relationships within community.

Most of this information we listed as events for parents. An example letter was presented talking about the partnership with home and school.

Brenda would like the second survey to be sent out soon. We should use this opportunity to incorporate the information just shared. We can fine-tune all this, then meet with Dr. Handley to decide questions for the survey. Only 40% of our families responded to the last survey. How can we increase this? Send reminders to parents? The survey was sent out through School Messenger to parents. Print and send home with students through Transportation. Add parents and child’s name at the top, we would know who has completed, then send again electronically.

Ms. Iannucci: average percentages of parent responses from schools nationwide: ES 64%, MS 57%, HS 35%.

This needs to be completed and returned by March 21st for the Team to discuss the results. Brenda meets with Dr. Handley on February 22nd to review the survey. The goal is to send this home with a 2-week deadline. The Team agreed to a deadline of March 7th and to send out reminders to parents once a week for three weeks.

SIT member comments and changes to the survey:

Fallon’s: The wording choice was “select all that apply or choose topics that interest you”. The consensus was to use “select all that apply”. Mrs. Iannucci stated we might need to have more general topics instead of all events.

Look at Read Across America and moved it to Learning Activities. Ice cream social is more specific. The readers for Read Across American are Nicole (voice and sign at the same time), Frank, Bola, Fallon asks Natsha to be involved with her class. Under select topics of interest. Parents may not understand what asynchronous means (virtual or to send packets). Some activities need to be deleted.

Barbie’s: Student recognition is combined with School events. Cultural events would be interactive activities. Field trips can be moved under academic interactive activities.

Tafie’s: interactivity category – create something with your child is too general and should be involved in your student’s school project move to interactive categories. Suggestion to ask parents to donate items needed such as Christmas decorations and Halloween candy. Asking parents if they have any services or donations they would like to make to the school. Items parents don’t need (i.e. donate board games or functional non-breakable items). A suggestions is not to place in this survey but to send letters out at the appropriate time when items are needed (i.e. candy or Christmas decorations). In the category social take out the word meal, so parents won’t expect a meal. Team decided to delete the word meals.

Pluses: Lots of discussion, agreements, and no arguments. Great feedback. Starting and ending on time.

Deltas: There is a problem following discussions. The display is small and hard to read the info. We are falling back to old habits not raising our hand, it is distracting going back and forth.

Suggestion: Next meeting bring laptops (share laptops) and not have to look at information on the screen.

Mrs. Iannucci announced she has an administrative assistant, and she will be in place in a few weeks. Team responded, good news that she found someone. Team inquired about an English and computer teacher. Mrs. Iannucci said that these positions are still posted.

Next Meeting – March 21, 2024 @ 3:05 pm – 4:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:00pm