

Elementary School Improvement Team/Middle School Improvement Team-Joint Meeting
Minutes
January 26, 2011

Present: Tom Virgadamo, Lauren Hocker, Maggie Davis, Julia Sniffen, Catherine Platt, Mary Bates, Julia Famularo, Mrs. Spratt

The minutes were reviewed, revised and accepted.

The E-SIT meeting overlapped with M-SIT. The two committees touched on some shared issues common to both - curriculum night, budget, and moving up ceremonies.

The committees discussed Middle School students' ability to interact with the Elementary School on a more regular basis. Teachers would love to see their former students and the younger kids always enjoy seeing the older ones. Middle School teachers have occasionally used this as a privilege. It was also noted that some Middle School students who may not be perceived as leaders among their peers would be viewed as leaders with younger students. Having Middle School children work with the Elementary School children would give the younger students a preview of what is to come. Two ideas reviewed were the Reading Partner Program - having the kids in 4, 5,6,7,8 read to the K,1,2,3 students. It was also suggested that older students work with the younger students in math.

The budget was discussed. There is potential for large cuts; they will not be across the board cuts. The cuts being considered are large for a district our size. Although cuts may be needed in some areas, investment may be possible in other areas. The Superintendent is looking for priorities from each area. In the Elementary School priorities include primary education, and class size. In the Middle School the actual Middle School Model remains a priority. These priorities will be used to make the determinations for budget cuts. All were reminded that we cannot just budget for the next year. We need to look ahead and we need to make sure there are reserves on hand.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 2, 8:00am