

Minutes

Principals Ad-Hoc Meeting

The Principals Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, February 1, 2012 at the Hattie Mae White Educational Support Center, in room 1E01. Members in attendance were: Beth Bonnett, Bill Buck, Theresa Campos, Tiffany Chenier, Gabriella Coleman, Clayton Crook, Kregg Cuellar, Dan Deleon, Sandy Gaw, Raymond Glass, Bruce Goffney, Tynette Guinn, Steven Gutierrez, Jesus Herrera, Kimberly Hobbs, Kettisha Jones, Gretchen Kasper-Hoffman, Michael McDonough, James McSwain, Susan Monaghan, Ramon Moss, Isabel Palacios, Theresa Rose, Tim Salem, Andria Schur, Mina Schnitta, Marilene Shane, Traci Stewart-Jones, Rodney Takacs, John Threet, Michael McDonough, Javier Villarreal, Andrew Wainright, Michael Walker. Also in attendance were: Terry Grier, Michele Pola, Mark Smith, Chip Zullinger, Aggie Alvez, Elneita Hutchins-Taylor, Arnold Viramontes, Zoe Stemm-Calderon, and Ildalia T., secretary.

The meeting commenced at approximately 11:45 a.m. Mark Smith distributed a handout and opened discussion on Resource Allocation Formula Overview (RAFO)– He said the RAFO will be presented to the board in March for the next school year; furthermore, at this meeting he planned to collect input from the ad-hoc members on reconsideration of weight distribution – to make certain funds are allocated to the campuses with a greater demand to provide services to our students with the highest need. Smith said although the state provides a weight formula the district does not have to use that formula to get money out to our schools to assure continuation of needed services.

Feedback on Reconsideration of Weight:

ELL (English Learning Language)

GT Qualifications

(Note: Funding is not provided when an identified GT student is not enrolled in advanced classes; also, consider change to include sliding scale)

Homeless students

Refugee students (RS)

(Note: Another principal added that RS were accounted for various other programs)

Summer Retreat

Smith introduced Zoe Stemm-Calderon, Assistant Superintendent, in Professional Development Operations. Ms. Stemm-Calderon led the discussion on the 2012-2013 draft of the Professional Development plan for the summer retreat. She asked the ad-hoc members for their input in terms of the *professional development* teacher and/or campus needs for next year. She said the goal is to balance district priorities with individual teacher needs and to provide training. She said that teachers training will be paid.

Summer Retreat Input:

Focus on a few initiatives

Avoid layering

Teach on integrating coherent strategies

Sustain ability to plan “over time”

Touch on e-rate and technology

Consider a topic in content

Offer online training

Timing for training may be an issue; solidify the time schedule as soon as possible because teachers are planning their vacations.

Possibly challenging to ensure that the teachers who need (this) training attend.

A principal inquired if there will be follow-up throughout the school year?

Stemm-Calderon said yes – TDS will design and partnership with Academic Services: (i) principal follow-up, (ii) on-line resources, (iii) tools available to lead coherent ongoing learning on campus.

Overall Principals Concerns:

Lack of communication with the Transfer Department

The system fails to block a substitute from accepting an assignment at a campus after the sub agreed to an assignment at a different campus

Police Department failed to respond to a principal's (telephone) request for assistance at their campus

Ongoing SAP (various) glitches

A principal asked if the PROCARD amount increased; he inquired on the status of the Data Warehouse as well.

Dr. Grier said we (the administration) are in the process of hiring a Procurement Officer who will address that issue. Mr. Viramontes said the data warehouse was board approved in December and it is (now) in the works. Dr. Grier encouraged principals to first contact their SIOs whenever anything goes wrong at their school.

A principal mentioned Styrofoam is an issue at one of his campuses, and students allergic to milk are told to drink water from a Styrofoam cup. Another principal mentioned a central staffing shortage for diagnosticians is a problem. Someone else mentioned the idea of a districtwide scan-able lunch card may help with the cafeteria billing problem.

Smith said Sowmya Kumar, Assistant Superintendent, Special Education, is looking at speech therapy across the board to ensure that students who require these essential services are provided the help they need. We will look into the other two issues.

Someone asked if the new principal committee met to discuss details of principal assessments and asked if they can get a list of the names of the people on that committee so that the principals can forward their input.

A principal at the meeting said conversation started with the committee of 9 – she said they met last week. She will provide a list of the names of the committee members.

Mark Smith commented on remarks from principals in regard to the new email (notification) link and ongoing emails. Aggie Alvez, Chief of Communications, Office of Communications, said, *the current system meets the needs of the people who requested to cease the constant emails. Also, the purpose for the frequent notices, i.e. Press Releases, is to make certain “you” (principals) get the news first. A principal asked for the status on the clearinghouse between PD and principals. Alvez said – we are looking for a home on the academic site to place it.*

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:00 p.m.

Follow Ups Listed Below

What	Who	Deadline
The system fails to block a substitute from accepting an assignment at a campus after the sub agreed to an assignment at a different campus	Arnold Viramontes	ASAP
Ongoing SAP glitches (complications, delays)	Arnold Viramontes	ASAP
Provide a list of the names of the members of the Principal Assessment Committee to Ad-Hoc members	Principal Assessment Committee	ASAP