

**King School Site Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

**December 14th, 2010**

In Attendance:		
Nick Fenger	Carissa Thomas	Kenneth Butler
Julie Davis	Tanisha Jones	
Jim Anderson	Carolyn Young	
Trace Salmon	Kim Patterson	
Andy Sellers	Joy Williams	

Melodie Hill is not on site council and needs to be removed from the member list.

**Kim Patterson:**

**Updates:**

Kim met with representatives from SEI last Thursday—King is to get one middle school coordinator and one elementary coordinator. The MS coordinator is Ms. Hill. The coordinators will work later hours than teaching staff. Kim also met with Tony Hopson Jr. Some schools that partner with SEI have programs on site and others have kids in the program go to SEI daily. King will do a hybrid model with some of both. SEI will send someone to the January Site Council meeting. Kim will have input on hiring of the elementary coordinator. They will be here to assure success in school and all around personal growth.

Kim passed out copies of the SEI applications. Jim Anderson wants the SEI application changed to explain what the program covers/provides.

Since the middle school is small, all students can be covered by the SEI partnership. SEI wants a particular variety of students in each group. Kim will have ultimate authority over the program. Further details can be elicited at a future meeting.

IRCO has the county contract for the King SUN program and King has very few immigrants. IRCO therefore doesn't have a depth of connections with community organizations that could support the program as much as SEI. SEI is interested in taking over the SUN contract. Carissa would be held on and work for SEI/SUN. Carissa has hired Rodney Tate to support providing more programs through SUN. A more organized schedule for the SUN program is a goal so that certain activities will be held on certain days.

**Progress report:**

Distributed to review and discuss in January.

**International Baccalaureate Progress:**

Second MYP (Middle Years Programme) application submitted—waiting for acceptance and revisions. Three potential dates for a visit in May for PYP (Primary Years Programme) sent in. With authorization visits, Joy will keep Site filled in and when it happens, Site Council will need to be involved in the authorization visits. Site may need two meetings in April, and May to handle the IB issues. An end of year event relating to IB may be scheduled.

Kim continues to attend meetings regarding Jefferson cluster redesign. Urgency seems apparent, since so many meetings are being scheduled in close succession. Middle School consolidation out of K-8's due to low enrollment seems to be a major possibility. That small MS classes are a disservice to students seems to be local principals' consensus. In the meantime, King goes on the assumption that 6-8 will remain at King. A new IB middle school is a major option under consideration. The decision may be made by the school board in January.

### **Relating Priorities of Site Council to Role of Site Under the Law:**

Membership reviewed the list of priorities brainstormed from last month (Handout #1) for completeness. Aligning school and after-school program needs to be added.

Nick has experienced firsthand the difficulties of getting the governing board at the school where he works to a productively functioning state. It took seven years and Nick hopes to shorten the timeline with regards to the King Site Council. The four duties of Site Council as outlined in the law that created Site Councils are:

- (a) The development of plans to improve the professional growth of the school's staff;
- (b) The improvement of the school's instructional program;
- (c) The development and coordination of plans for the implementation of programs under this chapter at the school; and
- (d) The administration of grants-in-aid for the professional development of teachers and classified district employees.

The law governing Site Councils is called chapter 329 and is available online at:

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/329.html>

Nick finds part (c) of the above aligns closely with our brainstormed priorities. Nick asked for feedback regarding the focus of direction of Site Council. Tanisha said that as a parent she values the opportunity to talk about the basic issues that are the purview of Site under 329 without getting bogged down in the details of the law. It is more imperative to get down to the meat of the issues. It has been problematic in the past for Site Council to achieve real results without getting bogged down in structural issues and protocol. She doesn't want the structure to hinder the real work of the council.

Kim was troubled by the tie between Site and teacher professional development. The PD for the year is already planned and Site Council will be kept abreast of those plans but it is too late to make changes. Teacher teams can come in to Site Council and brief us on where they are in their program development. There is so much going on currently amongst the teachers that Site will need to have

much more information before it can provide meaningful feedback regarding the program. Kim would support lengthening Site meetings to provide a better understanding of where the curriculum is. As standardized test results come in in the Spring, the staff and Site Council will have a better idea about how the changes implemented in the Fall are working and what needs to be improved. The decisions about staffing for the coming year will be based on the results.

Nick: at the end of the meeting we should ask ourselves: have we met our responsibilities placed upon us by all the levels of organization--are we making progress? This is a mandate placed upon us by state law. Site council's purpose is school reform. We should refer to the template laid down in the law to measure our progress and keep focused on the goals.

Kim: It's not so much that progress is made by *this group*, as it is that this group monitors the progress, is aware of, weighs in on how we are making improvement for students. Everyone in Site should be abreast of the professional development that is going on.

Jim: we are not educated enough as to the nuts and bolts of the work. We need to see the data that shows how effective the program and the improvements are.

Nick views his involvement with Site Council as a 5-8 year commitment. In the homework, review of A Guide for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools, there is section on determining the stage of development of the council. He doesn't want the work and development of Site Council to be discouraging, daunting or unpleasant. Site Council should use a mission statement as part of its focusing. This should be the same as the school mission statement. The Site Council needs development as to how it can meet its mission.

Site should dedicate an upcoming meeting to development. Kim: normally that kind of development would occur in the summer. Right now, Site needs to be in the mix with the running of the school. A lot of progress data will be forthcoming shortly.

Nick: Perhaps that development can occur concurrently with the business of the council as we consider issues and put them in the context of the council's mission.

What does the council need to do its job? We need the grade level teams to report back. We need council development and a mission statement to gauge our progress. Are we getting the information we need to evaluate the effectiveness

Kim is feeling a sense of urgency. Her homework assignment for Site Council is to review the data in the school improvement plan, the modifications she has made. She will be working on a review over the break that will be shared with Site Council in January. The law shows the limits of our mission but Site is not required to do everything listed in ORS 329.704.

Kim wants to direct Site business to the amendments to SIP plan to get feedback and review the data from last year. No time at this point to build up site council—do training. Need to address current

issues as they come up too fast. Summer may be a time to do site training. Staffing decisions for next year are coming up already.

The data is to be reviewed and to see if what is being done is working. Allocations of staff are crucial to the potential progress.

Julie—Site could make a real impact on parenting culture to go beyond what the school can do during the day. Empowering parents to make progress.

Jim: Saturday School will now accept Sabin School students.

#### Action items:

- Review handouts
- Decide what we want Kim to bring to us.
- Using the mission statement to evaluate progress and decisions—distribute to site council
- Clarify the roles of site members and leadership.
- Julie wants focus to be parents!
- evaluation on meetings is new continuing agenda item

#### Tentative Schedule for Remaining Site Meetings:

January:

- Report to state regarding SIP--discussion of data that was submitted
- 1-2 grade team to report out
- Evaluation of progress toward goals

February:

- IB progress
- 3-5 grade level team
- Updated SIP for review
- Evaluation of progress toward goals

March

- SEI update
- 6-8 grade level team
- Language X (ELL program)
- Evaluation of progress toward goals

April --two meetings?

- Kindergarten Round-up feedback
- Summer literacy (or May)
- IB Authorization preparation

May-- two meetings?

- ?

June

- Year end review, plan for 2011-2012.

**What are your interests at King?**

**What should our focus areas be for this year?**

- Reintroducing comprehensive neighborhood support and investment in the school and declining transfers out.
- Improving the public image of King
- Changing the school culture to one of higher expectations and morale
- Committed to taking students to higher education
- Business Connections
- Connecting Parents to Parents
- Providing opportunities for parents to engage and contribute
- Educating parents without academic backgrounds how to support their child's education in everyday life
- Finding ways of mitigating the impact of poverty on student achievement
- Having courageous conversations about race

**ORS 329.704 Local 21st Century Schools Councils; duties; composition; selection; district site**

**committees.** (1) Nothing in this section shall interfere with the duties, responsibilities and rights of duly elected school district boards. There shall be established at each school a 21st Century Schools Council. The duties of a 21st Century Schools Council shall include but not be limited to:

- (a) The development of plans to improve the professional growth of the school's staff;
- (b) The improvement of the school's instructional program;
- (c) The development and coordination of plans for the implementation of programs under this chapter at the school; and
- (d) The administration of grants-in-aid for the professional development of teachers and classified district employees.

(c) from above is quite extensive since the contents of chapter 329 are quite lengthy. The programs of chapter 329 have the following headings that appear to be relevant to the site council level.

- (Assessing Effectiveness)
- (Parental and Community Participation)
- (Community Learning Centers)
- (Early Childhood Education)
- (Pilot Project for Health Literacy Program)
- (Child Development and Student-Parent Programs)
- (Assessment)
- (Subjects)
- (Teacher Corps)
- (Beginning Teacher and Administrator Program)
- (Early Success Reading Initiative)

**For our next meeting: Familiarize yourself with these sections of ORS 329**

<http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/329.html>