

JFK School Council Minutes June 8, 2010

Present: Marcie Cohen, Kristin Mirliani, Michael Loughran, Kathy Fox Alfano, Beth Magann, Lynn Giacchetto, Heather Cahill, Meredith Carey, Barbara Carbone, Marci Rosenthal and Jennifer Henderson

Absent: none

The primary goal of this meeting was to review the results from the Parent-Guardian Survey, the JFK Staff Survey, and the Student Surveys (first-second and third- fifth). We received responses from 183 parents (out of 360 families) for a 50% return rate. All staff and students participated in the surveys designed for their particular groups.

It was determined that the following suggestions from the student body and the adults would either be a focus or would be written in as goal of the new School Improvement Plan.

1. It was noted that the majority of what adults and parents felt was “bullying” occurred during recess. Often “bullying” was defined as “not including someone in a game or purposefully leaving them out”, talking about someone with other students, etc. It was recommended that a program designed to increase the students’ appropriate play skills that would also continue to focus on team building be implemented. Ms. Carey will be investigating starting an *Open Circle* program here next year during recess. It was also recommended that parent volunteers be encouraged to help cover at the recess periods. The JFK staff also added investigating rotating student referees in games, a “let it go” box as students enter the building from recess and a protocol for teachers to follow so there might be consistent discipline (although many felt there is a protocol and some teachers chose not to follow the protocol).
2. Bus behaviors: The administrative group will focus on bus behaviors at the beginning of the year with the possible implementation of a bus monitoring system.
3. The staff would like continuation of professional development in differentiating instruction.

The remainder of the meeting was spent in discussion of the upcoming Cultural Connections Day.

Mrs. Henderson will revise the School Improvement Plan with the above suggestions as necessary and each member will be sent a copy. The Plan will be presented to the School Committee in August and all members are invited to attend.

With regard to Council/year rotations, Mike Loughran and Marci Rosenthal were elected for one year positions. Those one-year positions will be available for new members (or if Mike and Marci wish to run again) in September 2010. All others are currently in 2 year positions. Heather and Kristin are completing their second year of a 2-year term and their positions will be open (and they can reapply). Kathy Fox Alfano will be retiring from the committee so we will need a new community rep. Barbara Carbone and Meredith Carey will be staying on, and we

will need at least one additional teacher rep. Lynn and Beth are the CAPT liaisons and will be remaining on School Council for one more year.

Have a great summer. The School Improvement Plan will be sent to you as soon as it has been rewritten.