

Interest Based Problem Solving Committee
Meeting Summary
May 21, 2009
Meridian Junior High Board Room
6:30 p.m.

Present: Joyce Wills, John Vos, Angel Ballard, Cindy Raimer, Kathy Benesh, Deb Thibodeau, Barb Reeverts, Kathy Owen, Bruce Larson, Michael Mandzen, Kim Hofmeister, Tim Jagielski, Mona Smith, Bob Prusator, and Ken Reinhart (facilitator). Attending as observers were: Mary Kimrey, Amy Metzger and Ben Hickerson.

After check in, Ken Reinhart reviewed major components of the Interest Based model and reflected on items for the group to consider focusing on in moving forward. These included more clearly defining the role and responsibilities of sub-committees and the size/membership of the core Interest Based Problem Solving Committee. Ken also identified the four tasks to cover at the meeting: Kindergarten FTE; teacher evaluation; Lorado Taft Stipend; and a review of the Teacher Leader positions. The consensus of the group was to establish an ending time of the meeting for 8:30 p.m., unless there was consensus to continue beyond that time.

Bob Prusator reviewed the status of calculating the FTE for part-time elementary teachers. The primary focus of this task originally was a review of the extended day kindergarten teacher's FTE. He described the concept of the calculation and that John Vos and Kathy Owen had met with him to review a calculation that might be more accurate. The group reached consensus on having Bob and John meet to finalize the formula and bring it back to the committee. John and Bob are scheduled to meet on Friday, May 22nd at 2:20 p.m. to accomplish this task.

The Lorado Taft stipend issue was discussed next. Mr. Reinhart reviewed the status of the issue and that the compensation component was still left to be resolved. The compensation was left at the previous meeting with a proposal for \$150 per night for the next two years and a placement at the differential after that. The committee offered some other options. The possibility of canceling Lorado Taft was discussed, but determined to not be the responsibility of the IBPSC to resolve. Additionally, with Taft scheduled for August, adequate time is not available to study and recommend cancelling. After a brief caucus, consensus was reached with the following terms: 1) \$150 per night for the next two years; 2) District Health Services Department will be responsible for providing adequate medical/health provisions in collaboration with staff; 3) Administration will collaborate with staff to provide sufficient supervisory provisions; 4) Parent orientation will be conducted as done previously; 5) An assessment/review will be conducted to determine the future of Lorado Taft in consideration of problems versus benefits. This assessment will not be assigned to the IBPSC.

Discussion on the teacher evaluation process was held over until the next meeting.

Bob Prusator handed out a preliminary evaluation report of the Teacher Leader positions (included). The document contained Teacher Leader survey results from teacher leaders; teachers and administrators regarding various aspects of the positions. Additional information and analysis will need to be conducted as part of a full evaluation. Bob reviewed some general conclusions from the survey, which included a general perception that the positions have assisted in improvement and there are still areas that need improvement. All groups view the positions as being important to improving the instructional program.

The next meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, June 18, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. in the MJH Board Room.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



