

McKinley School Site Council

November 9, 2010

7:40 a.m. – Media Center

Moss: Book Fair going on this week. Community heroes have signed up to read in classes. Firefighters read to third graders Monday; students enjoyed seeing the fire truck and watching Mrs. Vincent go up in the bucket. Picture retakes are scheduled for Thursday this week.

Wells: attended ESL conference last week with Mrs. Rock. Excellent sessions, lots of good ideas. WatchDOGS have been very helpful volunteering in classroom.

Rock: also using WatchDOGS and is going well. Third grade just visited planetarium at Augustana; excellent experience for the kids. Discussion about interruptions during 8:35 a.m. intervention period; suggestion was made to make announcements at 2:45. Group agreed to have discussions about this issue at a later date.

PTA (Bedell and Swanson): BookFair is going on this week; PTA meeting scheduled for Thursday evening at 6:30; Dinner and Movie (Toy Story 3) on Friday evening. Asked about spring conferences and whether it would be possible to have more than three hours and include more than just kids who are struggling. Explanation was that three hours were taken from the fall conference time to provide this opportunity and it does not seem advisable to take any more time away from fall. Question was also asked if fall conferences could be later in the semester to allow teachers to get to know their students and their needs better. Explanation was that this is a date set by the district; changes would have to come by talking with the district. As chair of trivia night, Swanson floated a couple of ideas about silent auction prizes involving teachers; it was suggested she proceed with exploring those ideas. PTA was asked if there was any thought of providing cold water fountains upstairs. Bedell explained PTA budget considerations for the year and agreed to look into costs with district facilities. Group discussed classroom technology needs.

Strang: First grade attended "Wizard of Oz" at Central High School; kids enjoyed the trip and explored differences between play and movie.

Smiley: Basketball hoops were ordered four weeks ago; should be delivered within next month. Science Club had its first activity last month; organizers learned good lessons for how to better organize next one; 2-3 graders will do egg drop Nov 18 – limited to first 20 signups. Fitness Club is going well, with 25-27 4-5 graders every Monday and Wednesday.

Harris: Third grade music program going well. She and Bechen attended an information session on the Kennedy Grant pilot project McKinley will participate in; activities are still being developed and will center around arts in the curriculum; community connection will be a big piece of the project.

Kline-Jerome: Student Council is underway; officers have been elected; the group led school involvement in the Student Hunger Drive with Central HS; they are planning a year-long service project.

Woods: his small groups have started; participating in a freerice.com marathon to build social skills, spelling skills and help society.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 a.m.