

SHEPHERD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Minutes from Local School Advisory Team meeting of July 12, 2011 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Present: Jennifer Pauk, Sherilyn Pruitt, Steven King, Nancy Ulba, David George, Lisa Conner, Jamie Miles, JT Taransky

The meeting opened at 2:00 pm with a brief discussion to set the agenda for the meeting. Agenda items are in bold.

Election of LSAT Officers: After brief discussion David George and Nancy Ulba were nominated and elected as co-chairs and Jennifer Pauk as secretary for the LSAT.

Discussion of Community Representatives for LSAT:

The group agreed to learn about the members and then have a brief period at the end of the meeting without them in attendance for further discussion and a vote.

J.T. Taransky is a community member with a 6 month old son and has 5 years ESL teaching experience at Horace Mann ES with additional administrative and LSAT participation. She has professional experience in the field of learning disabilities, teaching and diversity issues in the community. She is taking at least one year off from work and looking for ways to participate in local education issues.

Patrick Gerbil (spelling) also contacted the LSAT with an interest in serving as a community representative. He was not present. Steven King indicated that he had a positive experience with him as an active parent when his child attended SES and he has also been involved in local community governance.

Traffic Issues:

The group discussed problems with traffic which occurs primarily at the 14th St. and Jonquil intersection. The traffic guard is at 14th St and Kalmia St. Ms. Miles updated that a DPW representative came to do an assessment and would take information back to the DPW department. She made recommendations about what steps the school can take to improve safety. LSAT members discussed different options for addressing the issue:

- LSAT agreed that DOT needs to do enforcement of the cross walk, u turns and cars blocking the crosswalk. There may need to be parent and community advocacy to make this happen.
- Mr. King suggested that the community make 14th St. one way. Discussion of different community perspectives on the school and whether this would be feasible.
- Idea of drawing a map so that parents know exactly how drop off should be done correctly and making sure that parents receive this information at the beginning of the school year
- Idea of training students on drop off and pick up rules
- Idea of having a safety patrol that students conduct: this has already been done in past. There would need to be a parent rep and a teacher rep to coordinate it. Mr. King offered to be the teacher contact.
- There is a need for volunteers to block off the carpool lane at 2:45 p.m. because the school does not have the staff available to do this. It was agreed that the listserve would be used to solicit parent volunteers and that requests for volunteers needed to be very

specific (i.e. exact time and responsibilities). Lisa Conner agreed to discuss this with Bianca about the need for parent volunteers.

Setting LSAT Agenda for Upcoming Year

Ideas included:

- Comprehensive School Plan – this will be the first agenda item as it needs to be approved
- Behavior
- Technology: need for more computers/printers in classrooms – LSAT agreed this was more of a PTA issue
- Retention and Recruitment of Parents – Ms. Miles noted that parents tend to leave around 3rd grade, but also noted that SES # families leaving is actually very low
- Need to Brand the School – brochure, videos, NW Current, yearbook
- School Budget – a mandatory LSAT agenda item later in the school year
- TVTO – needs early engagement and regular enforcement
- Communication – the PTA is responsible for working with the room parents

Election of Community Representatives

The meeting was closed and LSAT members nominated and unanimously voted to elect JT Taransky and Robert Gerbil to the LSAT. LSAT can have up to 15 members. **They agreed that if teachers want to nominate additional community representative(s) that the name of the nominee needs to be submitted by August 17th so that new people can be invited to the August 24th meeting.**

Next LSAT Meeting: The next meeting will be held Wednesday August 24th at 3:45 p.m. in the school library. The main agenda item for this meeting will be finalizing the comprehensive school plan.

The meeting was adjourned at 4 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Pauk, secretary, Shepherd Elementary LSAT