

School Site Council Meeting

Minutes – to be approved

School Claremont Middle School

Date 15 September 2009

Quorum number in Bylaws 8

Quorum Present Yes

Council Members Present:

Margit Birge

Rhonda James

Kenya Crockett

Kristofer Brekke

Lacy Lefkowitz

Mike Napolitano (Alt.)

Chandra Kendrix

Daniel Brekke

Karen Mc Robie

Ron Kriss

Renae Briggs

Bonnie Trinclisti

Celeste Allen (Alt.)

Tony Mills (Alt.)

- I. **Introductions:** Meeting called to order @ 6:40 p.m. Introductions made by all present with each offering brief statement re feelings about CMS so far this year. General consensus is that climate has improved, and positive reactions to rise in API scores. Principal gave bio as well as vision and expectations for upcoming school year. President Birge asked that someone take minutes in absence of secretary.

- II. **Review Ground Rules and Agenda:** Overview of agenda,; discussion re composition of council according to Bylaws. **Changes to Agenda:** Item V – selection of staff/teachers to be done @ upcoming faculty meeting; item VI tabled to next meeting pending selection of all members for this school year; item VIII removed pending confirmation of attendance of district budget analysts.

- III. **Review of Minutes:** Discussion re whether quorum was actually established at last meeting, possibility that meeting was not valid due to lack of quorum and

proper notice for meeting, which was an emergency meeting called due to need for textbook clerk. Motion by Lacy Lefkowitz, 2nd by Mike Napolitano to approve minutes. Motion carried by vote of 8 in favor, 0 opposed and 5 abstentions.

- IV. **SSC Training:** Review of manual, “Establishing a SSC” with emphasis on composition of council, rules and responsibilities of members and officers, and need for each to familiarize Robert’s Rules for conducting meetings. Discussion re possibility of having materials available in advance and ways to make this happen including rotating responsibility and use of internet.

- V. **Election of New Members:** Further discussion re composition of council i.e. number in body, how many parents, alternatives, and whether there should be a student representative, who would be selected at upcoming student election. Effectiveness of having a larger or smaller council i.e. 12 or 14 members. Principal suggested 1 alternative per peer group. Current Bylaws specify 12 members. There are currently three positions available for parents and four parents were nominated: Meuy Sae Chao, Antoinette Venable Sims, Roger Alvarado, and Kathellen Madden. Parents elected are Meuy Sae Chao, Roger Alvarado, and Kathellen Madden. Point of information raised by Bonnie Trinclisti that meeting announcements be made open to entire school community.

- VI. **Election of Officers:** To be done at next meeting after remaining peer selections.

- VII. **Approve Bylaws:** Questions as to whether bylaws could be approved tonight and whether there were any revisions to be made. Also discussed was the need for clarification of current bylaws and electronic availability, which will be provided by Ron Kriss. General consensus that current bylaws be approved with amendments and/or revisions to be considered on a continuum basis as need arises.

- VIII. **Budget Update:** Formal presentation of budget update postponed to next meeting in order that district reps, Jamie Marantz and Brad Stamm, be in attendance. Question rose as to whether the body will continue to depend on district representation to validate information or are we going to trust that our principal can relay reliable information. Response was that last year the body felt that there was no clarity re information given especially the budget. Principal relayed that administrators are trained to review budget weekly and

economic restraints sometimes cause daily changes. Ron Kriss responded that last years' council voted as a body to utilize the services of Brad and Jamie and there's a reluctance to not continue to do so. Other concerns raised were:

- Claremont's responsibility to function being challenged by the district.
- The textbook controversy and QEIA funding, and potential withdrawal of QEIA funds due to districts 'noncooperation'.
- Reasoning for denial of our textbook clerk request was also questioned.
- Discrepancy over use of stimulus funds especially for textbook clerk.
- Specific questions for Brad and Jamie.
 - QEIA monies
 - Supply budget
 - Enrollment
- Categorical definitions.
- Distinctions of position classifications.
- Acknowledgement of SSC as voluntary advocates to principal rather than adversaries.
- Safety concerns as related to pupil count.
- Possible under enrollment.

IX. **Next Meeting Date:** Next meeting possibly to be held next week, proper announcements will be made and done according to bylaws.

X. **Appreciations:** Ms. James appreciated the open and honest communication, President Birge appreciated Ms. Crockett's candor, and Ms. Mc Robie appreciates President Birge hanging despite thinking that the commitment would only be for one year.

XI. **Adjourn:** Motion to adjourn – moved by Ms. James and 2nd by Ms. Briggs to adjourn meeting at 8:52 p.m. Unanimous vote in favor.

Submitted by Kathellen Madden