

Balmer School Council
December 10, 2018
Meeting Agenda/Minutes

1. Welcome
 - a. New member - Kerry Lavoie from NMS
2. Strategic Plan
 - a. Shared with staff during staff meeting
 - i. Few questions, outside of the makeup of the referenced focus groups
 - b. Continuing with new office referral data
 - c. Second Steps being implemented and supported school-wide
 - d. 12/11 Inclusive Practice District Meeting to be held in Holyoke
 - e. First PBL experience being developed
 - f. Grade Level Student Showcase
 - i. Preliminary Planning on 12/4
 - g. Staff took survey on recognition
 - i. Majority prefers private recognition
 - ii. Week before holiday break = staff spirit week
3. Project: Summer Reading
 - a. Previously read Weslandia
 - b. Staff surveyed for book suggestions
 - c. Reviewed staff book selections
 - i. Themes of perseverance were pervasive
 - ii. How can we utilize this book to support us in building a classroom community and supporting the development of soft skills?
 1. Perseverance
 2. Accepting differences
 3. Overcoming a challenge
 - iii. The Brand New Kid (Renee)
 - iv. What to Do With a Problem
 - v. Thanks for the Feedback
 - vi. The Dot
 - vii. The Most Magnificent Thing
 - viii. The Day You Begin (Stephanie)
 - ix. The Name Jar (Stephanie)
 - x. Bubblegum Brain
4. Transition to New School
 - a. Questions and Concerns to Discuss?
 - i. How can we mediate the complex emotions?
 - ii. What are some of the questions and concerns team members have about this transition?

- iii. How can we improve vertical alignment and connections as a district?
- iv. How can we facilitate a discussion about our philosophy as a Pre-K-5 school?
- v. How do we build a community across the three schools between the teachers and staff?
- vi. Are there opportunities to support intervisitation between 1st and 2nd grade teachers and 4th and 5th grade teachers?
- b. Would like to communicate to Dr. Stickney and Mrs. Healey how important this is to us
- c. How to bring school-based teams together to work collaboratively, collecting staff feedback regarding hopes and concerns
- d. Front loading PD going forward to make it collaborative across grade levels/schools
- e. Developing a survey for Pre-K - 5 staff

5. Next Agenda

Roles:

Facilitator- Karlene

Recorder-Stephanie

Timekeeper- Jennifer L

Taskmaster- Renee Underwood

Agenda Setter- Sharyn T

Substitutes- Linn, Melanie, Kerry

Meeting Dates:

January 7

February 4

March 4

April 1

May 6

June 3