

**Fifth District Elementary
School Improvement Team Meeting Notes
January 14, 2008**

The people in attendance: Paul Balsamo, Byrdie Ricketts, Tawny Oram, Chuck Brent, Carole Quental, Dawn Elliott, Jenn Bortner, Kathy Rus, BJ Gill, Mark DiPaula, and Lisa DiNenna

Old Business

The SIT reviewed the climate survey and letter that will be sent to the parents in the spring. The date for distribution will be April 15, 2008. It will again be given as a homework assignment on that night and one survey will count for all the children in the family.

New Business

Mrs. Quental mentioned that the technology fund has almost \$9,000, very close to the \$10,000 goal set by the SIT. Fifth District will be receiving 25 new computers from BCPS, hopefully in early February. As soon as they have been deployed, the tech committee will meet to begin discussions about how that money will best serve our students.

As of now, BCPS is finishing its budget process for the 2008-2009 school year. Our projected enrollment is 280, and each school receives \$139 for each student they have. The staffing at the school is also based on that enrollment. Mrs. Quental will share more information with the SIT as it becomes available to her in the coming months.

Thanks and recognition was given to the custodial staff at Fifth District in the form of a Governor's Citation that was presented to Mrs. Quental in Annapolis on January 2, 2008. Fifth District was one of only 5 schools in Baltimore County to receive this recognition.

Parent Concerns:

A concern about the upcoming third grade trip to the Museum of Industry was shared at the meeting. Mrs. Quental clarified the misunderstanding about this with the team members. Any parents who want to attend are welcome; however, they will need to drive themselves to the museum because they are using one large bus, which will only hold the 52 students and the four staff who are attending. She is working with the third grade teachers on this clarification and will use a Connect Ed message to the third grade parents.

Parents also brought questions about Mrs. Hallengren's sub when she begins her maternity leave. Mrs. Quental assured the team that a qualified sub would be in place and that parents would be notified when she had a date for the leave to begin. There were also some questions about Mrs. Boegner's leave. Mrs. Quental assured the parents that a qualified sub was in place and she would be happy to address any parent concerns directly.