

**Fifth District Elementary
School Improvement Team Meeting Notes
January 22, 2007**

The people in attendance: Paul Balsamo, Brenda Benson, Mary Boegner, Chuck Brent, Carole Quental, Dawn Elliott, Catherine Flanagan, Lynne Wisner, Kathy Rus, BJ Gill, Mark DiPaula, and Penny Wilson

Old Business

The SIT reviewed the climate survey results. Overall the results were positive. The only areas where the changes were statistically significant were with the questions involving the parents knowing about the impact of the federal law, *No Child Left Behind*, and the new parents feeling welcome and informed. The team agreed that the information in the newsletter was increasing the parents understanding of the No Child Act. They also suggested that we compare the results on the new parents with last fall's results to see if there was still a difference. They also discussed that we consider asking the PTA to reinitiate their welcome packets for new parents.

New Business

There was a brief discussion about the Awards Assembly and parents' understanding of its purpose and how children receive awards. It was suggested to place another explanation in the newsletter and to welcome parents to the awards. Mrs. Quental agreed to do that in the next newsletter and to encourage parents to check the calendar in newsletter as well.

It was suggested to list the names of the SIT parents in the newsletter again so parents would be reminded that they were a great contact for bringing questions to the meetings. The teachers requested that, if possible, any parent concerns be given to Mrs. Quental a few days prior to the meeting in order to allow the teachers on the team to gather any needed information to respond thoroughly to the concerns at the meeting. If that wasn't possible, the team agreed to present the concern and then table the resolution until the next meeting.

There was a parent request that Mrs. Flanagan look into the possibility of obtaining carbonized papers so that every time a child saw her, the copy could be sent home. Mrs. Flanagan reported that she had 1300 referrals to her office as of December. She uses her discretion in calling parents about minor issues but makes all necessary contacts about more serious concerns. Mrs. Quental agreed to see if this request was feasible and she would bring the answer to the next meeting.

There was a discussion about the hiring of a new Kindergarten teacher for full day next year. We are anticipating two, full-day classes. There will be some reconfiguring of the building necessary. Mrs. Quental reported that she will receive her staffing in February and then she will have more information to share.

The team agreed to change meeting for next month to Thursday March 1, 2007 at 3:45pm since the scheduled date would not allow for Mrs. Quental to have her staffing for next year and to share it with the team prior to it being finalized with the county.