

Fifth District Elementary

School Improvement Team

November 12, 2007

ATTENDANCE:

Those in attendance were: C. Quental, P. Balsamo, K. Rus, D. Elliott, B. Ricketts, M. Boegner, T. Oram, B. Gill, J. Bortner, and M. DiPaula.

OLD BUSINESS:

The approved copy of the School Improvement Plan was given to all the team members and reviewed. Updates and additions from the last meeting were made.

Telecommunication Access Policy # 6166 has been updated by Baltimore County School System. Copies were given and reviewed.

Emergency maps in the school have been updated.

New Business

Parent Community Outreach

There was a discussion of the school newsletter and its usefulness to the community. Overall, parents were happy with the content and felt that the information was being relayed well to the families. It was noted that each grade receives a "class newsletter" about every two weeks or at the start of a new lesson. Parents were satisfied with the use of the school sign to keep the community updated. All agreed that the use of personal invitations, made by children for American Education Week and Grandparents Day visitations were effective.

The team discussed the community climate assessment. Last year, it was agreed that the community assessments would be done once a year instead of twice as in prior years. This was to give parents who were new to the school time to become familiar with the school and its operation before asking for their feedback.

The parents commented about the success of the Connect Ed system this year. They were very pleased by its frequent use for reminders. Mrs. Quental explained the report that she receives after each message is sent. This is a good way for office staff to make sure correct numbers are listed for the families as it creates a list of numbers that could not be accessed. The emergency phone tree is in place for this year.

The volunteer trainings earlier this year were very successful. In January or February there will be a second training session for those that missed the ones earlier this year.

The final discussion revolved around the Halloween festivities. There were concerns from parents as to the understanding of the "No Mask" policy. The team agreed that next year the policy will be communicated more clearly and will be strictly enforced by the staff and administration and also reiterated in the newsletter. The clarification will revolve around safety and navigation issues. There will be NO MASKS allowed as part of costumes. They are not to be brought to school by child or parent.