

School Community Council Minutes

Ridgeline Elementary

Monday, September 9, 2013

1. Introductions were made of all present; Jennifer Fairbanks was absent.
2. Dr. Higgins explained the new school grading system:
 - Ridgeline was high in proficiency (89% science, 91% in math and language arts, 98 % on the DWA)
 - Dr. Higgins and staff are looking at ways to improve the growth number.
 - Discussion included special education, low income, maintaining the 4's, moving the 1's, 2's, and 3's.
3. Grant money is in place for Raz Reading again this year for grades K-3. Mrs. Hawvermale heads that up.
4. Reading Horizons is new phonics program at our school for grades K-3. It is being funded from Trustlands. SCC is welcome to come watch the training on October 14th.
5. The upper grades are ability grouping in math. 6th grade has begun. There has been a snag concerning using Skyward to track these students. They are working on this problem. The SCC suggested using googledocs. 5th grade will begin in November and 4th grade will also do it.
6. CogAT is a general ability test administered to 3rd grade. It was piloted last year. It will be given between Sept. 11th and November 1st.
7. Dr. Higgins introduced teachers new Ridgeline: Mrs. Hurst, Mrs. Payne, and Miss Newman.
8. Ridgeline has some new and carryover money in the Trustland account. Kenneth Shulsen proposed that some of this money be used for the aide for newly added Kindergarten, double dose in

Kindergarten, and Reading Horizon class kits. It was seconded and approved by the council.

9. Discussion of new housing developments in progress and proposed in the area that would affect Ridgeline.

10. The dates for Collaboration Incentive meetings were discussed. Dr. Higgins will meet with teachers to find out when they would like to do it. SCC expressed desire that teachers would present goals one year and then address those goals the next year.

11. Misc. Items brought up not on the agenda:

- Homework; some thought it was too much, others not enough; desire to have all grade levels do some homework.
- Mr. Shulsen volunteered to help PTA with grant writing and also to see what he could find out about the school grading system as set forth by the legislature; he will report back.