

TURKEY HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

December 3, 2013
Minutes of Meeting

Meeting called to order at 5:06 p.m.

Minutes were reviewed.

Present were Timothy Santry, Heidi Champagne, Beth Arsenault, Rhonda Connery, Bob Meek-LaVeck, Todd Blake, Gail Okerman, Wendy Bertrand

Budget and Staffing

- In a strong effort to restore previously cut funds, 80% of the Budget request is listed below:
 - Over the past years, library funds have been cut to \$0. The average age of our library book offerings is 17. To offer a greater amount of options to our younger readers, the school is asking for \$3500.
 - Some monies provide filler from a drop in the last year in office supply consumables, but this is really beginning to wane and some materials need to be replenished, especially our second year with an added grade level.
 - Textbooks were also cut last year. This year we hope to fulfill the needs for the 6th grade curriculum to finish making a whole grade set of Astronomy textbooks.
 - Periodicals, also at \$0 last year (ScienceWorld, NG, READ, etc) these are of high interest to students and they tie in directly to the common core and so \$1800 is requested for this.

- A few members of the council discussed how the school could communicate to the public during the school year the needs, that could be donated, that are not met due to Budget cuts.

- Two tutor positions were unfilled from the start of the year. One has been filled, but due to IEP restrictions, this position needs to be restored because a trained personnel better meets the needs of the students rather than a substitute to fill the gap.

- The Technology position also needs to be restored. Having six specialists aids the children in terms of meeting various interest levels, but also it allows for common planning time and times for addressing our social/emotional curriculum.

Possible Assemblies

- “Responsible Use of Social Media”, a program out of Bridgewater State University out of \$300 for 2 assemblies, mostly geared towards 6th and 7th graders.
- “Tournament of Science” \$1150 for two shows that promotes teaming and positive learning. Eighteen volunteers from each show would participate in a competition of science experiments, victors will move on the next level until there is a winner.
- The Council feels that the Tournament is a good choice.

PTO-iPad carts

- Turning out to be more expensive than originally expected (upwards of \$12,000). They are looking into the best way to split the available funds between the three buildings.
- SAC discussed a cost share possibility of \$6000/\$6000 per building.

Guidance Second Step Program

- Used in grades 4 and 5, which addresses executive functioning, understanding and dealing with complex feelings: confused, sad, empathy, etc.
- Videos include “When I feel left out” “What if you’re a bystander” “Exploring Tolerance, Diversity and Differences.”

Honor Roll Numbers

- Eighty-eight from grades 6 and 7, 147 attended the Honor Roll Breakfast, down from last year about 4%.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 5pm.