

**Robert Cushman Murphy JHS
Site Based Team Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 20, 2007
3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Room 302**

In Attendance:

[Adults] Irene Brown (P), Cindy Carrucciu (T), Patrick J. DiClemente (A), Pat Hyland (S), Sue McGuire (T), Lorna Welde (P)

[Students] Daniel Brown, Sonya Li, Megan Welde, Ariel Yang

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 PM by Mr. DiClemente. Minutes of the November 15, 2007 meeting were read and accepted by all with no corrections.

Administrator's Report

Mr. DiClemente introduced the idea of a Diversity Day in which the differences in people could be explored through different conversations on several topics, such as disabilities and intolerance. The team discussed concerns about the loss of classroom time, the appropriate level of language needed for students, and the logistics of determining student participation (entire grade level versus individual sign-up).

New Business

- The team discussed the possibility of scheduling additional meetings in order to have additional time to discuss and accomplish SBMT goals. Since the team meets only five times during the school year as per the district calendar, additional meetings would be helpful.

Response/Follow-up

Mr. DiClemente will set up a contact list for e-mail communication.

- The team discussed various programs which may be funded by SBMT funds. Some suggestions were the Theatre Three production of "Class Dismissed", Dr. Laurie Mandel's film, "In Our Own Skin: Teenage Image and Identity", and Werner Reich, a speaker for the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County.

Response/Follow-up

Mrs. Carrucciu will look into whether the health teachers would be able to excerpt portions of the film, "In Our Own Skin: Teenage Image and Identity", for age appropriateness.

Old Business

Implementation of School Recycling Program

- The team discussed the issues related to the implementation of a bottle/can recycling program versus a paper recycling program since the team agreed at our prior meeting that one type of recycling program should be initiated prior to adding the second type of recycling. The team agreed that our initial efforts should be focused on paper recycling because of the possible difficulties related to sanitary issues in the collection of bottle/can materials for recycling.
- Several issues related to paper recycling were discussed. These issues were as follows: what to do with the material once it has been finally collected; who is responsible for the gathering of the paper to be recycled from collection bins; and methods of obtaining recycling collection receptacles.

Response/Follow-Up

- Since the town of Brookhaven presently will not pick up collected materials to be recycled from the school, other options must be explored. Georgia-Pacific and Waste Management are two companies which could possibly support the school's paper recycling efforts. Ms. Hyland will investigate the costs related to recycling with Georgia-Pacific. Mrs. Carrucciu, Sonya and Ariel will investigate the costs related to recycling with Waste Management.
- Collection of the materials to be recycled from collection receptacles should be the responsibility of students in order to have students feel that they are part of the process. One option would be to have students from each classroom move the classroom-specific collection receptacle from the classroom to the large collection bin/dumpster provided by either Georgia-Pacific or Waste Management. A collection schedule should be set up. A set of procedures should be

put in place in order to eliminate the possibility of problems and injuries.

- Methods of obtaining recycling collection receptacles discussed include a letter writing campaign to Supervisor Steve Levy and Assemblyman Steve Englebright to inquire about possible donations of town recycling cans to support our recycling program and the purchasing of recycling receptacles using SBMT funds. Mr. DiClemente will start a letter to appeal for support and meet with student team members during lunchtime to work on the letters.
- Mrs. Welde will look into educational materials on recycling.

Student Concerns

Students discussed difficulties dealing with gossip, self-image, making choices, and stress and time management.

Response/Follow-Up

The team discussed the possibility of bringing in speakers to address some of the concerns mentioned in order to help students deal with these issues. Also discussed were the merits of teacher clustering for the older grades (similar to the teamed teachers approach for seventh grade) since students are not sheltered in any way in the older grades. Lunchtime stress and the need to address the various ways of alleviating that stress were also mentioned. Different areas with varied levels of noise and energy to meet the needs of all students such as quiet areas in contrast to outdoor recess would be welcome.

Parent Concerns

No concerns presented at this time.

Staff and Teacher Concerns

No concerns presented at this time.

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 17, 2008 at 3 PM in Room 302.

Time Keeper: TBA

Facilitator: TBA

Recorder: TBA