

**Robert Cushman Murphy JHS  
Site Based Team Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, February 28, 2008  
3:00 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in Room 302**

**In Attendance:**

**[Adults]** Irene Brown (P), Cindy Carrucciu (T), Patrick J. DiClemente (A), Patricia Graziano (P), Melissa Mancusi (T), Lorna Welde (P) and Guest : Kathi Matos (Retired Teacher)

**[Students]** Sonya Li, Darshini Saikumar, Megan Welde, Kelsey Weymouth-Little, Ariel Yang

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM by Mr. DiClemente. Minutes of the December 20, 2007 meeting were read and accepted by all with no corrections.

**Administrator's Report**

- **Diversity Day**

Mr. DiClemente mentioned Diversity Day and its success. The team discussed the positive merits of the day's events. Other suggestions made included the possibility of having Diversity Day more than once during the school year (possibly twice a year) and having the event later in the school day.

- **Language of Leadership Leadership Workshop**

Approximately thirty students attended the workshop. Those who attended will go into the classrooms to speak with 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

- **Werner Reich Presentation**

Werner Reich, a speaker for the Holocaust Memorial and Tolerance Center of Nassau County, will be speaking to the 8<sup>th</sup> grade student body on Wednesday, March 19.

**New Business**

- **Beautification Ideas**

The team discussed various areas in need which include the condition of the basketball courts (basketball hoops in need of repair) and bleachers;

cafeteria tables written on, and addition of plants as well as soil and mulch for the beds located in front of the school.

- **Stress and Time Management**

This topic will be incorporated into the 8<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum in the Family and Consumer Science (FACS) Department. It is already addressed in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Health curriculum.

The team also discussed the additional stress of taking multiple midterm exams on the same day. The merits of a specific block of time in the school calendar dedicated to midterms as in the past and the splitting up of midterms in the future was discussed.

In addition, the team discussed the results of a study on the effects of music in the cafeteria, which was presented in an article to the team. This study found that less food was thrown out and more eating was accomplished, resulting in a quieter lunchtime environment. The possibility of using the cable television and screens in the cafeteria during the lunchtime periods was also raised.

- **Allocation of SBMT Funds**

The focus of the March 27<sup>th</sup> meeting will be on the allocation of these funds.

## Old Business

- **Implementation of School Recycling Program**

### **Salvage Company of Ronkonkoma, NY**

As per discussions between Mr. DiClemente and Mr. Richard Robinson of the Salvage Company, a paper recycling arrangement with the Salvage Company would follow certain guidelines. These guidelines are as follows:

To start the recycling process, five or six bins/garbage pails will be dropped off at the school by the Salvage Company. Newspapers, lined paper and mixed paper are to be placed in the bins. When most or all are full, the Salvage Company must be called and within 24 hours the bins will be picked up.

In order to make this arrangement efficient for both the company and for our school, the optimal number of bins is 6 bins every one to two weeks. There is no cost to the school unless we fall under the 3 bin mark or the market creates added expenses that the company is not expecting. Either way, notice will be given to the school at that time to either continue or terminate this arrangement.

The bins should be placed in various parts of the building and once every week or two as needed the company will be called to pick up. The bins are on wheels and they have handles for easy movement. They should be rolled into the designated pick up area, 24 hours prior to pick up. The company will take the full bins and replace them with others.

An agreement with a signature is required. The bins are the school's responsibility to house here. There is a \$250.00 fee per bin if any are lost or stolen.

### **Placement of the Provided Recycling Bins and the Need for Individual Classroom Bins**

The team discussed the advantage of placing these bins in the hallways, where there is some adult supervision. One bin could be allocated to each wing in the school.

The team agreed that more recycling would occur if there were smaller collection bins placed in the individual classrooms. Individual classroom collection bins could be created from empty computer paper (i.e. Xerox) boxes which could be decorated to indicate their sole purpose for recycling. As needed these cardboard recycling bins could be emptied into the larger bins located in each wing by site base members and students. Members of student government could also aid in collection efforts. The rate at which these classroom bins become full will need to be monitored prior to purchasing classroom bins.

## **Representative of the Waste Management Department at Brookhaven National Laboratory to Speak to Students about Recycling**

A member of the Waste Management Department at Brookhaven National Laboratory has agreed to speak to the student body about recycling. The team discussed the difficulties in scheduling a recycling presentation. One of the more efficient ways of scheduling this presentation would require students to attend with their science classes. If scheduled in this manner, all grades and all students would be covered in one day.

### **Response/Follow-Up**

Teachers and faculty should be informed about the recycling program at the next faculty meeting on Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Darshini, Kelsey and Sonya have volunteered to speak at the faculty meeting.

### **Student Concerns**

No concerns presented at this time.

### **Parent Concerns**

No concerns presented at this time.

### **Staff and Teacher Concerns**

No concerns presented at this time.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, March 27, 2008 at 3:00 PM in Room 302.

Time Keeper: TBA

Facilitator: TBA

Recorder: TBA