

Labor Management Meeting 3/1/2012

Mission Statement: We commit to build and foster a climate of joint cooperation and accountability where people are treated with dignity and respect.

Present:

Chris Smith
Nancy George
Pam Jackson
Dan Nero
Christen Sedmock
Bernard Caldwell
Marcia Cussen
Kathy Steward
Lynne Watson

Absent: Carolyn Brommer, Federal Mediator
Corey Grubbs, excused

Greg Schumacher and Debbie Wensel, Chairs

Good News

Marcia Cussen commented on the quote "Champions don't become champions in the ring. They are only recognized there." She stated that our staff does so much on a daily basis and may not get to see the results or are not recognized. We recognize the efforts of the staff as they prepare our students, not only for tests, but for life.

Marcia Cussen also stated that she thoroughly enjoyed reading to Ellen Harold Stein's preschool class at Gibbs. Marcia participated in a week-long celebration for Dr. Seuss's birthday. Various administrators and community people were invited to read to the class. Marcia enjoyed seeing the children respond and demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways.

Mindy Engler holds book discussions at Timken with students who spend their lunch periods engaged in talking about books.

Turnaround Schools—Barb Maceyak

Teachers have concerns about the amount of class time taken for data collection in Turnaround Schools. Barb stated that the strategies are meant to

identify specific weaknesses per child and are considered good practice throughout the district.

Teachers have said that their concerns are related to not having initial or continued staff development. Teachers may not understand the expectations and have stated a need to receive the same differentiation in staff development as is expected when teaching students.

Barb stated that teachers in Turnaround Schools may observe classrooms or get specific training upon request. They should feel free to determine their own needs and request training that they feel would help them. Teachers should not fear retaliation. If it should happen, CPEA and Central Administration will follow up.

Concerns re: amount and type of testing and mandated programs—Bernie Caldwell

Teachers are feeling overwhelmed by the amount of testing and programs including Common Assessments, Grade Cam issues, Exam View, RTI, Read Naturally, ACT, Explore, Terra Nova, OAT, Collins (12 items). There are approximately 30 days of testing each year and every year there is a new initiative added to those already in place.

Chris Smith distributed a list of assessments administered by CCS. The list included reasons for the tests (including requirements from state or federal governments). Staff will receive a copy of the list and will inform building reps about additional tests that are not listed so that Central Administration may be informed and consider possible changes.

Area code 234 numbers

Many students have phone numbers with a 234 area code. Staff may now call these numbers directly from their rooms. If a call does not connect, staff should contact the main switchboard at the central office (438-2500).

Safety Issues

There was discussion about safety issues as a result of increased gang activity in Canton and the incident at Chardon High School. Safety procedures will be discussed at Late Start meetings in March. Staff is encouraged to collaborate with administration in buildings re: safety concerns.