

October 27, 2011
Minutes of Regular Meeting
Harrisville School Board Retreat
Apple Hill Center for Chamber Music, Nelson
4:00 p.m.

In attendance: Earl Horn, School Board Chair
Pam Thayer, School Board Member
Erik Anderson, School Board Member
Emily Hartshorne, Principal
Wayne Woolridge, Co-Superintendent of Schools
John Thomas, 2/3 Teacher
Stacey Gonzalez, Spanish Teacher
Roshan Swope, K/1 Teacher
Jan Yardley, 4/5 Teacher
Claudia Derry, Grade 6 /Teacher
Kathy Brady, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order: Earl Horn called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

Mrs. Hartshorne began by reviewing the start of the school year. Spoke to the Wells Memorial School's Mission statement "Knowledge and Responsibility for Today and Tomorrow."

Emily reviewed all three goals:

1. Writing
2. Math
3. Service Learning

Service Learning:

Roshan Swope spoke to the Service Learning project in regard to her grade level K/1. The school had a focus on healthy eating and wrote a grant for a school garden project. Would like to expand a bit beyond the school or bring community into school. Strongly connected to the health curriculum.

John Thomas spoke to the accomplishments of the 2/3 grade level in regard to the Choice Program and what they could do to get more children to come to our school. The group created presentations with writing pieces, power points etc.

The children had an outlet for making their writing pieces more meaningful. There was a field trip taken to the Sentinel where they were able to tie in with the force of motion lessons with science. Wants to be able to connect to Common Threads and compare this visit with what they saw at the Sentinel. Would like to add events and articles to the school website.

Mrs. Jan Yardley from grade 4/5 spoke on the NH Social Curriculum and the work her class has been doing with the Harris Center on the trail at the school. The group has been working on tree identification, leaf prints, and animal tracking.

Ms. Hartshorne suggested they could possibly look at trails throughout NH.

Discussion ensued on thoughts of who could be connected with to assist with this project.

Claudia Derry, Grade 6, shared her leadership goals occurring in grade 6. Trying to show how they can give back to the school and improve the climate into a safe nurturing one.

- **Class Community**
- **Becoming citizens**
- **Feeling safe**
- **Language Arts based**

Group brainstormed other ideas to tie into these leadership goals.

Writing Goal:

Mrs. Hartshorne reviewed some writer's workshops that they incorporate into Open Court.

Jan Yardley shared the self-evaluations her group is doing on their writing pieces. The emphasis is being placed on revision to improve their piece.

Mr. Thomas shared that his group was more focused on the elements and skills than the final finished projects.

Roshan Swope spoke to the use of writer's notebooks with her group.

Claudia Derry and Jan Yardley shared that they feel the reading and writing connection is much stronger. They have incorporated the use of a composition book and write back and forth about the books they are reading.

Ms. Swope is incorporating the use of stamps, pictures and their decorated writer's notebooks.

Discussion ensued on the writing process.

Math Goal:

Emily Hartshorne found that the use of their math coach has been very useful. Charlotte Greenhaugh has attended math lessons in the building and assists with curriculum planning and meeting common core standards. Has helped to supply great documents for Mr. Thomas to support math in his classroom.

Mr. Thomas wanted to take a moment to acknowledge the great work done by Mr. Vince Bradley who has a tremendous strength in this area as well.

Mrs. Hartshorne spoke to the workshop on Everyday Math where they will be investigating realignment of Everyday Math to line up with Common Core Standards. Would like to use their February Early Release Day to have some Everyday Math training. Intend to use REAP funds to purchase a package of books that are more aligned.

Mr. Woolridge updated the group on SAU29 information and committee work.

- wants districts organized around goals
- noted that high performing districts have clear measurable goals.

Goals:

1. Learning Goal – PLC/RTI
2. Efficiency Goal
3. Advocacy

The group gave the following feedback: Plus/Delta

- input from staff important and beneficial

- continue to work collaboratively with board. Retreat helps to communicate day to day functions of school
- nice to meet school board and share a meal – a nice collegial relationship
- mutual sharing of ideas
- nice to hear what other staff are doing
- like the layout of presentations
- importance of jobs and good to hear from staff
- positive 3 hours
- Vince Bradley – very supportive staff person
- important to provide board with knowledge they need to support them in the community.
- wished that Amy Fulton could have been present

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Brady, Stenographer

APPROVED: 12/21/11