

HOSMER SITE COUNCIL MINUTES
APRIL 6, 2010

I. Arrival, introductions, sign in, volunteers for time keeper, taking minutes/notes of meeting etc. (5-10 minutes)

II. General questions, new items, future agenda items, discussion. (10-20 minutes).

General Questions:

- Are families able to receive paper notices?
- Hosmer PTO and Hosmer School Improvement Team have taken the initiative to adopt a paperless environment.
- Only a small number of families who opted for notices to be sent home

New Items:

Elementary School Bullying Program – “Caring Community”

- To address bullying within the schools, cyber bullying, as well as what is happening at various other schools/ districts and laws that have recently been passed
- Kits for each classroom
- Working with PDC for training in the fall\
- Looking for funding
 - Elementary schools were awarded \$3000 for program
 - Applying for funding through Watertown Education Foundation
- April 12th
 - Students will attend a performance on bullying with follow up in classrooms
 - Looking to have something for parents

III. Principals’ update/discussion: (30 minutes).

Update on the Budget process: Administration, School Committee, Joint Sub-Committee on Curriculum/Budget and Finance, Town Manager and Town Council.

Updates:

- Details of budget presentation from the superintendent was clear
 - A variety of scenarios are on the table

- To keep classroom sizes low all elementary schools have asked for one additional classroom teachers
- Hosmer has asked for two additional classroom teachers
- Budget outlook could possibly project cut of a teacher instead

- Would multi-age classrooms help?
 - Does not look like multi-age classroom helps keep class sizes low
 - Will continue to look at it this option

- Chapter 70 funding is still undetermined

- April 15th: Reduction in Force notification

- April 27th budget meeting

- Applied for Picturing Writing \$20,000 grant for Grades K-5

Site Council's role in the budget process. Future dates of importance.

- What is the best way for parents to stay informed about the budget?
 - Greatest impact will be on class size:
 - More classrooms of 22-24 students
- Some special education programs that were to be extended will be put on hold

- Did anything last year significantly impact this school year?
 - Loss of secretary

- Hosmer did not qualify for Title I funding for the 2009-2010 school year.
 - Funding was shifted to support Hosmer programming

Site Council is usually invited to the June School Committee meeting to give School Committee a report on the year's activities.

- What will be presented? By whom?

IV. Sub-committee(s): (30 minutes).

Follow up on meeting with the PTO on enrichment programs and documents developed. Follow up on progress of enrichment resource book that was completed. Are all documents completed and online? Any final issues on this sub-committee?

- Enrichment forms can be found on PTO website

- Enrichment resource book needs to be put online

Discuss future sub-committee topics. Continue the discussion started at the February meeting regarding the Site Council and Hosmer School Improvement Team collaborate and develop of protocols on issues of importance.

- Hosmer School Improvement Team collaboration to develop protocols
 - Recess
 - Drop off and pick up
 - Drop and go designated areas to decrease congestion?

- Goal: Incorporate protocols in handbook