

Syracuse Arts Academy Work Session Minutes October 4, 2007

Place: Syracuse Arts Academy, 2893 W. 1700 S., Syracuse

In Attendance: Andrea Larkin, Michelle Gibby, Chris Dallin, Charlene Nelson, Dave Hall

Excused: Charlene Nelson and Shirley Bouwhuis

Others in Attendance: Jan Whimpey (Principal), Catina Martinez-Hadley (AW)



The purpose of Syracuse Arts Academy is to develop respectful, confident citizens in a solid educational environment enriched by artistic expression.

MINUTES

5:00 PM – Call to Order

BUSINESS ITEMS (To be Voted Upon During Board Meeting):

- Discussion concerning business items was postponed until the Board Meeting, when there would be a quorum.

REPORTS:

- Principal Report – Jan
 - The school is full. The official October 1 count was 525 students. Principal's Goals for 2007-2008
 - AYP Report - Jan passed out a comparative report that showed AYP results from both Syracuse Arts Academy and Davis District schools with similar demographics. SAA is doing very well in comparison with the Davis School District. Jan discussed the AYP score on attendance. She stated that a similar trend in district schools implied that the absences were cultural and the result of vacations scheduled during the school year. Jan talked about intervention strategies for improving AYP scores. SAA is now sending out attendance letters to point out excessive absences to parents.
 - Teachers are now tracking inappropriate behaviors to develop appropriate interventions, such as:
 - Adding more recess games in addition to incentives for student participation and additional recess staff.
 - SAA now has an electronic scanning system for tracking lunches and balances.
 - October activities:
 - Targeted intervention groups have started.
 - Book fair starts on Monday
 - SAA has tightened up security for the building and records. The school will no longer allow non-staff personnel into the office area.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing auxiliary communicative aids and services for these meetings should call Emily Coon at 801-540-8080, giving at least three working days notice.

- The school has now procured 7.7 books per child in the library and resources. This is up from 2.2 books per child.
 - Andrea asked Jan to add staffing updates to principal report.
 - Jan says kids are sending items to soldiers in Iraq
 - Dollar General made a donation of \$5000 to SAA.
 - Construction updates are on the school website. www.syracuseartsacademy.org
- 5:37 – Board adjourned the Work Session and went into a Closed Session to discuss staffing issue.

ADJOURN: 6:00 PM

Action Items:

1. Board Pictures on the wall – Michelle Gibby
2. Create a memo to teachers to include intent of Board to be more involved, including a Grievance Policy – Chris Dallin
3. Attend staff meetings once a month – Jan will send out schedule for staff meetings
4. Board will attend a luncheon during a professional development meeting – Andrea Larkin

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