

Minutes From Midvalley School Community Council: March 21st, 2019

Meeting came to order at: 3:36pm

Council Members Present: Tamra Baker – Principal, Vicki Houmand, Joelle Rasmussen, student support staff /(psychology) team, Mont Millerberg

Parent Representatives: Becca Staker, Brittany Halterman, Stephanie Williams, Kara Shea, Elizabeth Williams

Next Meeting, Thursday April 18, 2019, at 3:30

Agenda:

1. **5th grade language problem:**

1. What is being done to improve concerns-
2. What is the consequence for various behaviors?

Social emotional learning team has a “confetti” program to promote kindness located on a board in their office along with the “stars program” in the 5th grade hallway. Other programs are in the works such as the Midvale Mayor coming to speak to the 5th grade, etiquette luncheon with local leaders in the community with the 5th grade.

Teachers and aids are advised to ignore the student’s language and the student is then to be referred to the student support team. There are steps taken at that level to get that child or family additional support if there is need. Support extends beyond the school and into community if needed for the whole family. However, the student support team faculty at school need parent consent to talk to students individually or as a small group. Some parents do not consent to this.

The social emotional learning team will take a Friday morning meeting with the 5th graders and teach appropriate social skills.

Swearing is not a “safe school” violation, suspension can happen, although students with special needs have different discipline routes. School psychologist reached out to her supervisor at the district for additional help in the language problem. 5th grade parents feel the 5th grade environment is “R” rated with the current language used by some students and the teacher and faculty “ignoring it/non-reaction response” see by students.

5th grade parent, Brittney Halterman had her 5th grader keep a tally of the swear words she heard in a day and the tallies were numerus. The social support team asked to keep the tally page to use in their addressing the issue.

Mrs. Baker expressed her observation of when the problem started was after winter break and feels some of the students were gifted the video game “Fort Night” for Christmas and has used that as a place for inappropriate behavior and language outside of school. She is trying to inform and help parents see the inappropriateness of this game for their children.

Mont Millerberg expressed that in his professional setting colleges swear all the time and that is just the norm in society.

Mrs. Houmand also expressed that in her classroom as similar in her home, swearing is not acceptable or tolerated even if it is the norm other places by students.

2. *Dress Code:* Mont Millerberg from the district urges the parents and staff to come to the school board meeting and voice their concerns. The school board are elected officials and SCC members feel that if more people from the community come, the better understood the feelings are in the community on this issue.

Dress code issues that were concerning for members present at the SCC meeting were, immodesty for girls (of all ages), boys being distracted by girl's immodesty, safety- i.e. being able to carry and conceal weapons on themselves and bare feet or inappropriate shoe wear. Hats weren't an issue for some present.

Mention of fear of children not learning how to dress for professional settings later in life

3. *ES Land Trust 2019-2020:* approved. See handout for further details (\$39,000 five intervention Assistants will support students in skill-based instruction) (\$1,200) webmaster/ communication specialist- staff stipend- instead of hiring a new 5th grade aid for the 2019 school year because it's so late in the year) (\$4,000 Math materials and content integration materials to strengthen structured classroom discussion and writing)

4. *Bylaw suggestions from the District:* suspended

5. *Upcoming School Events:*

1. New Building land breaking ceremony April 16th 5:30pm

Mrs. Baker expresses her thanks to Mont Millerberg for all this work and everything he has done for Midvalley.