

**Willowcreek Middle School
School/Community Council Meeting
November 13, 2006 - 12:00 Noon**

Attending: Robert Bean, Roberta Catmull, Natalie Clark, Laura Giles, Lisa Hadfield, Tani Ireland, Fred Openshaw, Natalie Petersen, Aleta Wilkinson, Tom Wiltbank

Excused: Ellie Bodily, Dan Jackman, Leslie Jones

Natalie Petersen welcomed the group and Natalie Clark read the minutes from the October meeting. The minutes were voted on and approved.

UBSCT Testing - The UBSCT Test is very important. It is a test all students must take as a sophomore. Passing this test will allow the student to receive a full diploma upon graduation. If it is not passed, they will receive a certificate of completion. Because students need to be prepared for this test, Willowcreek gives two (2) practice UBSCT tests to our 9th grade students, one in the fall and one in the spring. Our 9th grade students just completed the first practice UBSCT test. A letter was sent home to the parents to inform them of their student scores. If their student scored 80% and above, the intervention classes are optional. If students scored between 79-65%, intervention classes are recommended. If students score below 65%, intervention classes should be highly recommended. The letter also outlined the dates and times of the after school intervention classes.

The Bond and Leeway passed! The Bond passed with 65% and the Leeway passed with 63%. Out of 142 precincts in Alpine School District, 140 of them passed. The new High School that will be in Saratoga Springs is scheduled to open for the 2009-10 school year. A Middle School is also in the works.

Walkaway's - A letter explaining walkaway's was sent home with Term 1 report cards on November 6, 2006. If students did not pass a walkaway in their class, they would have finished with an "I" in that class, which means "In Progress" or "Incomplete". After term 1 was completed, Mr. Openshaw ran a report to find out how many "I's" were given. Out of a student body of 1410 students, 898 students had one or more "I's". In order to help the students complete their "I's", the following steps were taken:

1. Mr. Openshaw talked with the students. He explained that students cannot represent Willowcreek in any extracurricular activities such as field trips, band/choir festivals, basketball, track, etc. if they have an "I" on their end-of-term report card.
2. Mr. Openshaw talked to the teachers. He asked them, "What are you going to do?", "What is your plan with the remediation process?"
3. An additional tracker was hired to help with those students that needed the extra help.
4. The counselors visited with all students who had three or more "I's" and put them in a study hall class. For those students with 2 or less "I's", they were put into a lunch study class until the "I's" are made-up.
5. Teachers are not to move on to the next concept until the class has an average of 80%

passing rate.

Last year, Willowcreek had an average of 250 students who were on the honor roll. This year, at the end of the first term, there are 427 students who made the honor roll. Mr. Wiltbank explained how excited he is as a counselor to see students who normally wouldn't succeed, do well in classes and accomplish academic goals they may have. The letter "I" around Willowcreek, means something new all together. Mr. Openshaw said that while walking down the halls, students will walk by and let him know they have made up their "I's". They are excited and are getting praised for doing such great work.

Mr. Openshaw requested to take \$4000 out of the Trustland Funds to help offset the cost of the new tracker Willowcreek has hired. The council supported this idea. This will leave approximately \$2000 in the account.

The crisis response plan is in place. Mr. Openshaw reviewed this with the council. There is a *practice* lock down drill scheduled for this Thursday, November 16, 2006. First, the administration will come over the intercom and announce "Lock Down". Second, teachers are to pull their class into one corner of the room, where they are away from windows. The practice drill will let us see where holes are and where we need to be more efficient.

The only question which was brought from the council was about the advanced math/science program. The incoming 6th grade students are testing in the elementaries for placement now. If students pass the test, they have the opportunity to take part in the advanced program at Willowcreek.

There is not a School/Community Council Meeting in December.

Next School/Community Council Meeting:

**January 8, 2007
12:00 (Noon) - Snacks Provided
WMS Conference Room**