

# **WILLOWCREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL**

## **School/Community Council Meeting August 15, 2005 - 9:00 a.m.**

Attending: Julie Barnum, Robert Bean, Glenda Carson, Laura Giles, Lisa Hadfield, Fred Openshaw, Natalie Peterson, Julie Wallace, Aleta Wilkinson (Tani Ireland, Tom Wiltbank excused)

Julie Wallace, Chairman, welcomed the new council and thanked them for their willingness to serve the 2005-06 school year. Willowcreek is excited for a new year to begin. Council members took a few minutes to get acquainted. The group consists of a variety of personalities and strengths which provide a wonderful representation of Willowcreek's patrons.

Minutes from May 3, 2005 meeting were read.

Areas of growth were discussed. New construction continually underway in Willowcreek's boundaries. Alpine School District is busy gathering pertinent information for proposed bond to be placed on the voting ballot in the fall.

Busing prices have increased because of gas prices. Busing provided for student who live two miles from the school. Willowcreek students are 100% bused (23 buses total) because road conditions are not safe for students to walk to and from school. Child access routing will keep transportation busy meeting busing needs.

Charter schools in the area are now looking at providing a junior high school. One elementary charter school is now a feeder for Willowcreek Middle and another proposed for next school year.

A big responsibility for the council is to determine how the Trust Lands money is used. \$17,000 was allocated last year and a proposed \$26,000 will be allocated for the 2005-06 school year. Making wise choices is vital when dealing with this amount of money.

School/Community Council is a liaison between the community and school. If Willowcreek doesn't know what the needs and wants are, nothing can be done to remedy the situation. Ellie Bodily is our district representative - another source for expressing concerns.

Julie Wallace requested to step down as Chairman. She has been an outstanding Chairman. It was proposed and seconded Julie Barnum for Chairman, leaving a vacancy for Co-Chairman. It was proposed and seconded Robert Bean for Co-Chairman.

Early-out Mondays - importance of working together. Three essential questions: 1) What do we expect students to learn? 2) How will we know what students have learned? 3) How will we respond to students who aren't learning? Progressive thinking - are we meeting the needs of students who have learned and are needing to learn more? Is there emphasis on additional educational goals for high achievers? That is what Monday's meetings will be addressing. WMS hopes to create goals to challenge students and move them forward. 1:15 - 1:30pm

teachers will be in their house meetings. How to navigate computer system and read data provided from district is a challenge. Curriculum preparation to get a sense of students - 50 minutes. Then break for department meetings to review student progress.

Great response from parents through e-mail. Tardy issues to be addressed: 1) warning 2) call home 3) referred to administration 4) administrative action. Teachers may want to make contact with parents through e-mail.

Open House, August 18<sup>th</sup> 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. It would be beneficial for parents to have computers set up so they can have help and practice traveling through our web page. Teachers are asked to keep attendance and grades updated (updated weekly) in computer for parents. Parents are encouraged to keep in touch with teachers. Parents are to e-mail Mr. Openshaw when students' progress is not being updated. Parents and teachers are asked to be positive when corresponding back and forth - be professional.

Council members are invited to attend Monday meetings at Willowcreek. Check in at the office and administration or office staff will help you find the appropriate meeting. Parent involvement is welcomed and their perspective will be insightful as Willowcreek deals with growth. Parent involvement will help the myth that early-out Mondays are just a planning time for teachers. The teams are dealing with the three basic questions and very involved setting and meeting goals for the 2005-06 school year. Administration and counselors have been assigned to participate in Monday meetings.

- Goals:
- 1) Short Goal - Open House PowerSchool training for parents
  - 2) Mid Goal - Getting names of committee members out to parents (pictures on the web page)
  - 3) Long Goal - committee members to give this some thought

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Meeting times: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month - 12:00 - 1:15pm

September 12<sup>th</sup> - next meeting (lunch will be provided)  
-dismissed by 1:15pm so members can visit Monday meetings