

School Council Meeting
Minutes
September 23, 2010

Attendees:

Dr. Pat Witt – Principal
Mr. Jeff Kipa – Chairperson
Ms. Kathy Bailey – Parent Rep.
Mrs. Kay Miller – Teacher Rep.
Ms. Jessica Cadwell – Teacher Rep.
Ms. Crystal Reid – Visitor

Dr. Witt opened the meeting with the presentation of the agenda for approval, outlined meeting procedures and an inspirational passage. All attendees were introduced and the meeting began.

- An election will be held on Sept. 30, 2010 to elect 2 more members to the School Council.
- Meetings will be held on Tuesday – Dr. Witt will review the calendar to avoid school meeting conflicts.
- The next meeting is tentatively set for first week in December.
- The School Council needs a quorum, minimum 4 members, to meet and vote on agenda items.
- Morningside Elementary made AYP for the 2009-2010 school year.
- Dr. Witt reviewed Morningside data from the 2009 – 2010 school year.
- Morningside school-wide reading 94% and math 90%.
- Dr. Witt reviewed the outcome of our summer Leadership retreat.
- As a group we discussed the decline in vocabulary scores and the need for PPHH to focus on vocabulary building. Possible reasons for this decline were discussed among the attendees: lack of life experiences, lack of conversation with adults, video games, texting, and not reading and comprehending at student's appropriate reading level.
- Dr. Witt gave an example of how 4th and 5th grade were focusing on vocabulary – Daily Oral Language (DOL), Word of the Day, and Daily Oral Analogies (DOA)
- Morningside received award as Title I Distinguished School for the 7th time.
- A teacher was added in 4th grade due to numbers – currently have 6 teachers.
- School enrollment is currently at 417
- Playground fund and plans were discussed. Currently have ~\$11,000 in playground fund – need about \$100,000 for a new playground.

- Mr. Kipa stated that he was talking with several local developers about helping create a new playground for the school as a way of helping out in the community where they are developing homes.
- Mr. Kipa has also talked with a developer from Peach County who would be willing to prepare the area/asphalt at cost (Bob Holcomb)
- Dr. Witt has spoken with a vendor who would be willing to help draw up plans and install a new playground.
- Morningside's literacy coach has been promoted to API at another school – waiting on county decision about the position. Salary paid for out of Title I funds. If position is not replaced funds can be re-allocated towards other school needs.
- 2 furlough days have been added back into the school calendar – does not affect student calendar only teachers, Oct. 12, 2010 and Feb. 21, 2011. These will become teacher workdays.
- In-between meetings, Dr. Witt will organize the agenda and research any topics needed for discussion. If someone has an item they wish researched and/or added to the agenda the information is to go to Dr. Witt. Dr. Witt will forward the final agenda to Mr. Kipa before the next meeting.

Minutes taken by Kay Miller – Teacher Representative