

Lake Minatare School
Operating Council Meeting.
October 29, 2007

Present: Doug Yost, Janelle Applegate, Suzanne Poynter, LeAnn Carlson,
James Maser

Absent: None

- I. Welcome: Welcome to new member, Janelle Applegate, former Highland parent and board member
- II. Building and Grounds: We reviewed some of the SB safety committee list items from Mr. Knapper and worked on a list of building improvements (attached). Kip had already taken care of some of the minor items. He recently replaced all the bolts on the swings as the wear was excessive. We will be getting the playground equipment from Highland School. Doug will be talking to parents who have equipment that could remove it and bring it to LM. This would need to be done after harvest for manpower and equipment to be available. In the meantime we will get over to Highland and take any measurements we need so that we can decide where to place the playground items at LM. The parent club is also interested in having some concrete put in for 4 square, adding some tetherballs, and a tire swing. Mr. Knapper indicated that we might make use of the SHS students who are taking a construction class to help with these projects.
 - a. Back Field: Scottsbluff's maintenance crew came out and did the weed spraying and will be returning out to overseed/fertilize and repair the sprinkler system. We requested and have on file the specs of the weed spray.
 - b. The Well: still in the works somewhere, but out of our hands. The district is handling the process.

- III. Buses: We have had one experience using the video to show a parent his child's behavior. We discussed that a parent must view the tape at school or in the bus garage with Rory; the tapes may not go home. The ability to film the bus route is wonderful. My bus drivers regularly take the video home and review it, making notes to talk to the kids about the next day. We hope the district has plans to eventually put them on each bus. Concern was voiced about having a backup plan for those emergency situations when we do not have a bus or a driver. Karen will look into different solutions for this problem. We have only had a couple days so far when we have not had a sub driver. It was mentioned that students have been seen walking to/from school and there was concern for safety. Karen will follow up on this and also check to see if there are any plans for sub drivers for the district.
- IV. New Staff Members: We had to replace one of our instructional paras and were able to find a wonderful young woman who has been a para in Gering, Sara Yuill.
- V. Grade Level Meetings in SB: We have been able to find subs for most of our teachers to allow them to attend the grade level meetings with Sandy Porter. These have been a good source of information on the district's current STARS assessments, the practice writing prompts, and other areas which are new to the Lake schools.
- VI. ISP: Action Communications came out to check on our continued problems. They moved the equipment on the roof to try to get a better connection to Victory Hill. If this doesn't improve the situation we will need to saw off some tree limbs that might be in the way.
- VII. We recently reviewed and updated the School Improvement Plan using our spring testing data. Copies are available in the office.
- VIII. Our school counselor is being kept busy and is very much appreciated by faculty and families.

- IX. The faculty made a trip to Highland early in the morning on the teacher workday and brought more materials to LM from the classrooms there. Kip will be sent back for some cleaning supplies.
- X. Parent Club: The Parent Club has had much greater attendance this year so far. They sent water bottles and other things to the students for Red Ribbon Week and are gearing up for the Thanksgiving Dinner. They have been approached by the 7th/8th graders who want to participate in Math Counts but are seeking a sponsor for the \$160 fee. They are selling cookbooks and will once again be doing Santa's workshop.
- XI. Testing: Many thanks to David Davis, SB's tech person, who got all the new laptops connected to a server in the gym, allowing us to do the NWEA testing. It took a couple weeks to get through everyone, given absences and the number of tests, but it went very well. We are working with the students on goal setting based on their test results. Unfortunately NWEA has advised us that we cannot compare the results of the MAPS version to the paper/pencil version we have had in the past. The laptops are now set up for wireless use in classrooms. We are very thankful to the district for the laptops and the storage cart.
- XII. Lunch Study Hall - This was worth the effort and works well ! After the first month of school during which we had anywhere from 1 to 7+ students at the study hall table during lunch, we now rarely have any at all. The kids who used to be there are very proud of the fact that they are now doing their homework at home and working as expected during class. This was a very successful idea (taken from the Feb. district in-service) which we will continue to use as necessary.
- XIII. New members for council: In looking at our members we have all grades represented except K and 3/4th. It was decided that 5 members are enough for the size of the school.

- XIV. Copier - bids will be going out to replace copiers for all schools. We need to consider finding another spot for the copier. The serviceman has stated several times that the airflow is too limited in the small copier room and is affecting performance. This led to discussion of available space and room use (library/office/copier room) and will be discussed with faculty and brought back to the operating council. Do we move the library to the boys' locker room now that we are not having our sports programs?
- XV. Mrs. Baker has proposed an Ashley Bauer Day as she is a Lake Minatare graduate. This will be during the winter.
- XVI. The members asked if there are any "extra" storage pods in the district that we could use here for storage.

Building Improvements - Lake Minatare School

- *Upgrade the lighting in the school to the new T- 8 fixtures as the T-12 are becoming obsolete. Fixtures should include safety covers.
- *Replace carpet in building (halls and two offices).
- *Repair concrete in front walkway.
- *Have the heating system evaluated for possible replacement. It is very hard to regulate temperatures.
- *Install functional sprinkler systems for all areas needing to be watered.
- *Recaulking needs to be done on all exterior walls.
- *Fence around the propane tank.
- *Evaluate current drainage system for repair/replacement.