

Biggs USD Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

September 27, 2012

Meeting called to order at 3:35 by Mr. Kaelin. Introductions done by everyone in attendance and sign-in sheet passed around. Mrs. Siegall stated she was attending for Mrs. Locey.

Members Present: Jennie Felkins, Vera Bridges, Leanna Glander, Maxine Hamblin, Heidi Siegall, Amy Smith, Angela Thompson, Pam Sheppard, Nelda Andes, Minden King, Sandy Lattemore, Diane Brown, Cadie Honan, Doug Kaelin, David Withrow.

Absent: Charlene Locey (Heidi Siegall attended for her)

Mr. Kaelin introduces Jennie Felkins as DAC chair. Mr. Kaelin asks if there was any item that needed added to the agenda, none were given.

Mr. Kaelin explained the purpose of the DAC committee and asked for questions, there were none.

Mr. Kaelin updated the committee on student enrollment district wide. It was noted that this was the first time in 9 years that the district had seen an increase in enrollment, the past nine years the enrollment had suffered a decline. Several members committed on the positive changes they felt were taking place in the district and the positive tone compared to years past. Mr. Kaelin spoke about the different maintenance projects that were completed during the summer. Mrs. Brown commented how nice the bathroom looked in Richvale. Several members commented on the look of the district building and how the building created a positive starting point for the district. Mr. Kaelin spoke about the curriculum updates at the high school. Mrs. Sheppard stated she has heard nothing but positives about the new metal/ag class. Mr. Kaelin shared the change in teacher assignment and the new Health Text Book that was on display waiting for board approval.

Mrs. King shared the updates of K-8 Curriculum. She spoke about the Direct Instruction Reading program; students are receiving 60 minutes of reading instruction in the morning in addition to their normal language arts class time. Saxton math has been added as the core math program K-8. Mrs. King explained that the previous math program had several holes in the curriculum and that the Saxton program continues to loop concepts from lesson to lesson and grade level to grade level. She also commented that Saxton would have materials in place to address the new common core standards. Mrs. King also covers the training that was being provided to the K-8 teacher through Saxton math and the reading program. She also went over the different training that is being put into place for instructional aides. Mrs. King went over the expected behavior signs that have been installed at BES and RES.

Both Mrs. King and Mr. Kaelin spoke about the security cameras that have been installed at all school sites. The purpose of the cameras was for safety and deterrence of negative behavior. Mrs. Smith stated that she thought they were a good idea.

Mrs. Thompson asked about the school resource officer that the city of Biggs had paid for. Mr. Kaelin stated that the office did not come to any Biggs Schools and last year the city of Biggs with drew the contract with the city of Gridley for lack of service.

Mr. Kaelin informed the group that there was a delay in the release of the 2012 API/AYP from the state.

A handout was passed out with grade level STAR/CST data for each grade level with data from 2007-2012. A second handout with a bar graph was handout that showed district data. Mr. Kaelin and Mrs. King went over the data. Reference was made to positive growth and negative growth. Mr. Kaelin showed how you could look at the data and track different grade levels mainly in English Language Arts.

Mr. Kaelin handed out an update of district goals. He went through each goal and the progress made. He asked for questions, none were asked.

A handout was passed out regarding updated EL program improvement plan. Mrs. Bridges shared the plan. Mrs. King and Mr. Kaelin talk about site strategies being put into place. Mrs. King shared BES and schedule that had been modified to give time for EL instruction. Mr. Kaelin shared the high school had an EL class the last period of the day which also contains 7/8 grade students. Mrs. Bridges shared that CELDT testing was taking place and explained the process of students being reclassified as English proficient.

Mr. Kaelin went over the present state of the district budget. He explained the district like most districts had declining income and had deficient spending in 2011-12. A discussion on the tax proposal on the November ballot was discussed. Mr. Kaelin explained the governor's plan created flat funding for schools, not increased funding. He also explained the district 2012-13 budgets were created with the assumption that neither ballot measure would pass. Further that the budget was fine for this year, in the years out that will be a problem.

No agenda items given for next meeting. Mr. Kaelin reminded members of the next meeting dates on the agenda and thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10