

Bemidji Area Schools - Title I Parent Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2016 - Central Elementary

Members

Parents: Angie Berg, Becky Bentfield, Sondra Gudmanson, Robin Harris, Berit Rosenberg, Alisa VanDyke, Jennifer Verdugo

District: Kathy Palm, Jacque Pearce

Central Elementary Education and Title I Services

In 2015-2016, Central Title staff and Principal Welte notice a busier time with more students, additional classrooms, and a combination (split) 3-4 class. Central Elementary serves a large number of transitional students, therefore, promote a safe haven for students to feel welcome and comfortable. Having the shared Title I teacher (non-public and Central) is very helpful.

Title I staff assist students with math and reading. Family Engagement events include "I Love to Read" the week of February 22-26, 2016. Parents, grandparents, and others read to students. Each day, staff and students dress for the special theme of the day (Dr. Seuss, as an example). Also, in the fall, Central featured an evening event, "Math with Muffins", where classroom teachers each gave a presentation about mathematics and families were served muffins.

2015-2016 Assessments

District Assessment Coordinator, Kathy Palm, shares information on testing through the school year. Students in grades K through 1 are assessed and can be progress monitored through AIMSweb, with the non-public schools (Heartland Christian Academy, St. Mark's, and St. Philip's) included this year. Students in grade 2 take the NWEA MAP test. Those in grades 3-11 participate in the Minnesota Statewide testing, taking the MCA-III or MTAS. Parents will receive links to spring testing item samplers and to Pearson Perspective.

Family Engagement Plans and MDE Training

Parents were given a copy of the 2016-2017 Family Engagement Plan and asked to review their copy, then bring revision suggestions to the next meeting. Also, an invitation to join Debbie Landvik's (MDE) Title I Family Engagement Training Feb. 25 in Bemidji.

Title I Kindergarten Packets

A sample of the Title I packets assembled for all students enrolled in Kindergarten at the beginning of the school year was shown to parents. The materials for packets will be in by the end of April. Parents are invited to assist with assembly of the 2016-2017 Title I Kindergarten Packets on Wednesday, May 4, 9:00 a.m. at the District Office.

Next Luncheon Meeting

The next meeting is to be determined. Lincoln will likely host with in April and Solway in June.