

Bemidji Area Schools - Title I District Parent Advisory Council

Luncheon Meeting Minutes

May 22, 2018 – Solway Elementary

Attending

District: Kathy Palm, Jacque Pearce

District Parents: Angie Berg, Kimberly Crawford

Solway: Jenny Frenzel, Heather Sande, Bonnie Wentzel, Tami Wesely

Lincoln Parents: Twila Bolte, Amanda Sherwood

Solway Education and Title I Services

Solway staff, including Title I teachers, promote student success in reading and math in various ways:

- Reading Recovery students – eight this year – were all successful.
- Students made nice improvements from Fall 2017 to Spring 2018 in MAP testing.
- The Raz-Kids reading program (sponsored by Solway PTO) is beneficial to students in grades 1-3.
- Students enhance their reading skills through the Tiger Bags program. They take books home to read with family or on their own.
- Cub Bags are comparable, but for younger siblings of the students using Tiger Bags.
- The summer S.P.A.R.K.S. (Solway Parents and Reading Kids Succeed) reading program allows students the opportunity to maintain or increase their reading level while school is not in session. This program is sponsored by

Schoolwide, Minnesota State testing is a major event:

- Students are encouraged to “study and rest before the big test.” They wear a badge home with this statement which lets their families know to help them prepare.
- Students that will test also receive an incentive kit that includes Smarties, an eraser, paper clip, Solway pencil, and Lifesavers mint candies.
- Classes cheer for each other and younger students that are not assessed give encouraging notes to upper grade level students.
- In late May, Solway Elementary holds an awards ceremony acknowledging students’ efforts.
 - All testers receive a pencil that reads, “I did my best on the test” and a certificate of participation.
 - Those with growth that do not meet the standards receive a certificate honoring their achievement gains.

- Students with test results meeting standards receive an award certificate and a ribbon.
- Finally, those who exceed the standards are given a certificate of merit and a medal of honor.

Family Engagement Events:

- Students and parents/guardians attend “Family Night” in November featuring Indian Education and a western theme (Solway Family Roundup).

Gene Dillon Elementary and Title I

Title I services is determined by free and reduced levels. The new Gene Dillon grade 4-5 elementary school will receive Title I funding for Targeted Assistance, whereas, the other Title I schools receive funding on a schoolwide basis. Data from MCA and MAP results will establish students needing academic assistance. The hope is to maintain current Title I programs at the new school. The district will learn in June what the allocation is for 2018-2019. Ideally, there will be two FTE teachers on site.

2018-2019 Family Engagement Plans

Revisions were made to the Family Engagement Plan for 2018-2019 as per parent suggestions and general editing. Copies of the revised document were reviewed by those in attendance. The district plan and those for individual Title I buildings were signed by parents.

Tentative 2018-2019 Parent Advisory Council Meeting Schedule

- October 2018: J.W. Smith
- November 2018, January or March 2019: Gene Dillon
- February 2019: Central
- April 2019: Lincoln
- May 3, 2019: Kindergarten Packet Assembly
- May 2019, third week: Solway