

Dilworth Elementary School: Sedgefield and Latta Campuses
SIT Meeting Minutes
October, 15, 2021
Virtual Meeting
7:00-8:00am

- **Mission Statement** was read
- **Roll call** photo was taken
- **Celebrations:** Becky shared
 - Fifth graders went to Whitewater Center
 - Prospective Parents IN PERSON - about 60 parents - fantastic turnout and experience
 - TD Testing concluding in 2nd and 3rd; looking at about 50% certifying and another 10% qualifying through portfolio in each of those grade levels
 - Dragon of the Week has started!! Pictures are hung weekly - very exciting to see our little dragons' faces; new containers for dragon dollars; postcards are being mailed weekly
 - SPARK ceremony for SC 10/15; Latta 10/22
 - Curriculum Night zoom sessions were successful
- **Approval of September 3, 2021 Minutes**
 - Molly Arledge made motion
 - Nicole Vourlas-Davis seconded
- **Academic Business** - Crawford
 - **Enrollment** - 343 students on SC; K-2 309; Latta 270; total 579 K-5
 - 35 students off projections; sitting on 2 TA positions so could be traded for 1 teacher
 - **Staffing** - Across district we are teacher short, so even schools with higher numbers lost teacher positions; district looked at grade levels instead of just the school composite; they determined we would lose 4 teacher positions; thought Restart funds would be possible; SC used to be Title I so you receive federal money; once you come off of Title I and you maintain passing status, you are given Restart funds...up in the air, you never know. We are getting those so we could save another position. Which meant we would lose 2 teachers.
 - Start with volunteers, followed by last hired
 - SC - Lloyd volunteered; she teaches 2nd; can't go higher than 20 so couldn't disperse; K had more flexibility with numbers. Pence reassigned from K to 2 and dispersed Pence students to other K classrooms.
 - Communication went home to all families affected by this change; personal phone calls were made by admin to Lloyd and Pence parents

- Latta - no volunteers; Morrison in 4th last hired. Numbers were too high for 4th to disperse; 5th classes were much smaller; Reassigned Winter to 4th and dispersed her class among other 5th grade classes - they will now be about 25/26 in each fifth grade class.
- Communication went home to all families affected by this change; personal phone calls were made by admin to Winter and Morrison parents
- Becky called district at 1:45 on Wednesday and learned the news -we would be expected to make the change with a 48 hour turnaround
- Pre K TA Moody - medical leave
- K-2 TA Gaines - medical leave
- TA - vacancy and still interviewing
- Nicole asked if they will reassess for numbers later in the year; Becky said there is still room in several grade levels, so our numbers will likely not change
- Teacher shortage and establishment of virtual academy is leading to this change in our staffing; schools were given allotments before virtual academy was staffed; district didn't realize how many people would choose virtual option; that is just one example of a school; there are other schools experiencing the same teacher shortage; board recently added K-2 fragile students which led to an additional need for teachers
- Nicole asked for duration of Restart funds; Becky responded that we have to wait and see each year based on funds availability
- Steve asked about morale - Becky responded with student resilience; 5th grade team has worked together a lot; often the kids are really excited about something new; lots of communication and support being offered but it is a hard year; Jenny said how much she appreciated the personal phone calls
- **Curriculum Night** - went well; not as high engagement as previous years; need to explore why
- **School Improvement Plan** - Indistar platform; Becky explained the new wording with closing the gap to 100% (still same idea about increasing proficiency)
 - 3-5 Reading; moving 17 students from NP to Proficient
 - Lots of new students and many of them are below where we would like them to go up
 - 3-5 Math; moving 12 students from NP to Proficient
 - Dibels goal - Dibels has several subtests; nonsense word reading is the subtest where our students struggle bc it is not normal for them; we are confident they will grow in this area once they are familiar with the test

- Indicators for Indistar:
- **Becky 3.03 - Principal monitors instruction and curriculum:** attend PLC meetings, monitor lesson plans, do walkthroughs; discuss needs with facilitators; attend IEP and 504 meetings; work with students in small groups; child study meeting; data tracker monitoring and conversations
- **Molly 2.04 - Instructional teams develop standard aligned units of instruction:** detailed PLC meetings; shared strategies; plans for all levels of students
- **Molly 4.06 - Teachers attentive to emotional states of students;** continue goal from pandemic; growth mindset; morning meetings; caring schools curriculum; small groups with counselors; guidance lessons in classrooms; panorama screener
- **Lane 4.01 - School implements a tiered instructional system of support;** MTSS plans; Tier 2 for supplemental support; Tier 3 for intensive support; meet biweekly to discuss progress and make adjustments as needed
- **Lane 1.06 - School regularly communicates with parents;** multiple methods of communication; providing supplemental and extension resources to parents
- Steve discussed the loftiness of the goal; Becky explained that 80% is our goal; if we hit that we would always increase based on the previous year; Steve asked how much of the improvement is expected to be done in class versus done at home; Becky answered the responsibility falls on the school; Molly added in the importance of the small group instruction; Becky added that is why we will disperse classes and not pull assistants so they can see their groups (except in 4th and 5th)
- Ginny asked about On FIRE time; will that be literacy all year? Do we have evidence on On FIRE time? Becky responded that lots of the interventions are happening during that On FIRE time. On grade level kids are exposed to TD work which will hopefully move them up as well. TD kids are doing more independent projects or collaborative work to explore.
- **LETRS program** - DPI implemented a new professional development opportunity for teachers; all K-5 teachers must participate in training; 2 year training to ensure all staff understand the five pillars of literacy; it is a very ambitious timeline; 28 hours of online; 14 hours reading; 25 hours or synchronous; 13 hours of group work; total of 80 hours of PD in a year; work is expected to be during school day, so we need subs to cover that; this is A LOT to put on our teachers right now so we need to be very

supportive; we have given them time on Wednesdays, workdays, half days, etc. to give them time; year two will be the same

- Our district is offering trainings for **Orton Gillingham** for a stipend; we have had two teachers express interest/ sign up
- **PTA Update:** Ginny Sloan
 - Commended Becky on keeping it positive
 - Prospective parents HUGE success
 - Dragon Fest - postponed; hopefully we can do it in the Spring; encouraged parents to try and plan organic playdates as a grade level
 - SPARK celebrations planned - socially distanced but really fun! DJ at Latta with Nathan Lanning
 - SPARK fundraising - reminder parents can still give
 - New Parent Party (K) - OMB on Oct. 20
 - Book Fair in November
- **Sedgefield Middle School Update** - Jenny Morton
 - Just wrapped up campaign
 - Put in new marquis - looks amazing
 - Sports off to a great start
 - Open House coming up; dates TBD
- **Next Meeting:** January 14, 2022, 7:00am, virtual
- **Coming Soon:**
 - Oct. 15 SPARK assembly SC
 - Oct 20 Kindergarten Parent Social
 - Oct. 22 SPARK assembly LC
 - Oct 25-28 Parent Teacher Conferences
 - Oct 29 First Quarter Ends
 - Nov 2 - Teacher Workday
 - Nov 3 - Picture Day (SC)
 - Nov 4 - Picture Day (LC)
 - Nov 5 - Dragon House
 - Nov 11 - Veterans Day Holiday
 - Nov 15-19 - Book Fair
 - Nov 18 - Culture Night
 - Nov 24-26 Thanksgiving Holiday
 - Dec 8 - Early Release
- **Adjourned Time:** 8:12am