

Newcastle Elementary Site Council Agenda and Minutes

Site Council Representatives*:

Rich Mellish, Principal

Alissa Miller, Primary Teacher

Stephanie DeJesus, Intermediate Teacher

Laura Berry, Specialist

Joni Hamasaki, Classified Lion Club

Richard Crispo, Community Rep

JuliAnne Diesch, PTSA

Peter O'Donoghue, Parent

OPEN, Parent

Briana Heim, Parent

** members present in blue*

Focus Goals:

The Newcastle Site Council will study, monitor and advise the school leadership toward the following goal areas:

1. Developing our School Community.

Continue the development of our school as a place where families are embraced, supported and connected to the school, each other and the greater Newcastle community.

2. Growing our Culture of Kindness.

Further grow systems and practices that

- encourage a culture of kindness characterized by mutual respect, shared responsibility and embracing differences as students develop learning and social skills; support and encourage resiliency and responsible risk taking; and
- foster high expectations for academic achievement and growth without placing unhealthy levels of stress and pressure on children.

January 8, 2015 Agenda (notes in Green)

2015-16 Focus: Engaging / informing our community around key district-wide efforts including:

Homework and Grading Policies

- ~ Update: Addressed grading questions at staff meeting, parent newsletter sent and on principal blog, Homework discussion on future agenda
 - What needs to be addressed as we go into conferences and report cards
 - What does a 3 mean? Address expectation of a 4.
 - Notes section helps. (share with teachers it is open)
 - Does my child need assistance?

- Get the cover letter out in print or email from teacher. Explain in teacher's terms what a 2 or 3 means.
- Student Support Plan

Crowding and Construction Bonds

- ~ No update, April Vote
- ~ Bring committee rep or district rep to PTSA or community meeting (Jan update- Superintendent and VIS rep coming to Feb 1 PTSA Meeting)

Math Adoption (Jan update- process still unfolding, no action to date)

- ~ Finalist Eureka!
- ~ Non-traditional program – use of concept building activities and problem solving activities prior to traditional algorithms.
- ~ Better student results in trials
- ~ E-news – links to sites, district, Eureka, and update/announcement.
- ~ Fall Math Night – learn Eureka's approach
- ~ What transition issues can we expect?
- ~ How will staff be trained?
- ~ How will parents support? (Staff discussion)
- ~ Still determining the Tech Component

Positive Social, Emotional and Behavior Supports (Jan update – Presentation planned for Feb 1 PTSA meeting)

- ~ Invite SSC & Principal to PTSA?
- ~ Enrollment Information Night

Start times for elementary and secondary schools

- ~ District announced process is coming to engage community (Jan update- Thought Exchange survey coming soon)

Additional January Updates

- ~ Enrollment:
 - FDK decision expected by end of Jan
 - New Welcome brochure/packet in the works.
 - Revising Info Night Agenda to be more interactive

Future Scheduled Meetings: *Fridays, 8am*

Jan 8

March 4

May 6