

Governance Notes November 12, 2013

Present: Paul Freeman, Gayla Rowe, Lauren Wilson, Laurie Osier, Sherie LeBlanc, Susan Ebert-Stone, Danette Lippman, Karen Dixon, Jill LaFontaine

1. Constitutional matters: SAC (School Accountability Committee) – Principal or designee, at least one teacher, at least 3 parents/legal guardians of students in the school, at least one adult member from the community....Members of the SAC should elect a chair every year. The chair must be a parent.
***Duties of SAC – Paul described what the chair of the group’s responsibility includes. The group also discussed the appropriate topics to discuss for each agenda. Appropriate topics include: Budget, UIP, school’s performance, etc.
***SAC Meetings – Must meet at least once quarterly, meetings are open public meetings, minutes must be kept.
***Additional Notes – Group may be a formal or informal advisory groups. Personnel records and student records are confidential records and SAC’s do not have access to these records.

First discussion brought up was about how the parents rely on Paul and Gayla to come up with the agenda and unless the parent is really involved at the school, they might not know the items for the agenda or issues for discussion. Also, parents wonder how schools are run and information about schools and education. They feel naïve about coming up with the issues/agenda items to discuss. Paul and Gayla will continue to come up with agenda items, but will refer to the group to include items they feel need to be discussed. When the agenda is sent out, parents are welcome to add topics to the agenda item.

Chair person:

2. Springboard curriculum resource was brought up and parents want to have an evening about the new program. Gayla gave the group an overall explanation of where Springboard came from and the basis of the program levels.
3. Paul showed the 4-year moving average benchmark data of MG%ile-benchmarked schools are included. Snapshot of growth of Glenwood Springs High School students and how they are doing compared to other school districts.
4. Paul showed a few of the elements from the literacy standard for teacher evaluation. He explained that all teachers are all required to teach both literacy and numeracy.
5. Student Perception Surveys – Paul explained Ronald Ferguson from Harvard embarked on a deep study as to how useful it is to ask students what they think of their teachers. Prior to the meeting Paul sent an article for all to read about Ferguson’s study. We are going to survey all students across the district using the

same student perception survey. Paul showed the questions that the committee have come up with so far.

One of the parents asked what will happen with the information. Paul explained that the teachers will receive the information from the survey. Also, the Ferguson study has reliable data to compare teachers from state to state, how well the teachers are doing by rank, etc.

Parents really like the survey of all students and the tool that Paul showed them. Lauren explained that teachers have some apprehension about the surveying of the students. She gave examples of some of the questions that cause apprehension.

6. Paul brought up the TELL survey for Glenwood Springs High School and our results from this past spring. We will looking at the TELL survey when we look at the Unified Improvement Plan in January.
7. December 10th, Tuesday at 6:30 pm will be the next SAC meeting and we will be discussing spring board at the next meeting.