

GEAC Minutes
June 4, 2008

Notes taken by Lisa Gilbert and Debbie Napolitan, co-secretaries

The Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by Paul Meehan, President, at LWSD Resource Center.

Present – Paul Meehan, Mary Wictor, Jodi Gaertner, Lisa Gilbert, and Debbie Napolitan. 6 other parents were in attendance.

Treasurer's Report –

- Motion to add Sandy Malone-Long to teacher's distributions list for 2008/2009. Approved.
- Funding of distributions is from donations and company matches. Current donation is around 100 families out of the 800 in the various Quest programs.
- Budget presented for 2008/2009. Will be presented for approval at September meeting.
- Ending balance \$6,543.

Director's Report – by Sandy Malone-Long for Cindy Lundvall
Updates on student enrollment & placement:

Advanced Placement Testing:

- 2118 exams given (78 unused), up from 1813 last year.
- Students need to sign up in advance for testing.
- Requirement to take AP test if signed up for AP class varies by teacher/school.
- Variations on AP requirements by teacher should be added to the curriculum presentation(s) in fall for High School presentations about AP.
- Consider having an AP student panel with representatives from various schools. The last one was 2-3 years ago. Proposal to put on calendar.

Elementary update:

- 235 new students placed for 2008 as follows (121 full time and 114 pull-out):
 - Alcott 40
 - Franklin 28
 - Redmond El 20
 - Smith 24
 - Thoreau 9
 - Mead 48
 - Rush 50
 - Sandburg 16

There are currently 814 elementary & 133 junior high students placed for the 2008/2009 school year. Raising the test score minimums on the ITBS and CogAT has not changed the increase in students qualifying each year.

Current waitlist is around 50 students, compared to around 70 last year at this time. There are very few first graders enrolled in Quest.

Junior High Update:

Total of 63 new 7th grade Jr. High Quest students:

- Redmond Jr. High: 34
- Kamiakin: 29

Kamiakin teacher Karen Todd will be retiring.

Topic – AP Grading

Current district policy is to not give extra weight to AP class grades. Class rankings also do not have any weighting.

Alternatives: (1) no ranking of students in a class (2) An unweighted GPA, with a weighted GPA used for class ranking, or (3) calculate both ways and release both.

Discussion about if this is a cause GEAC would like to champion.

Topic – Math Book

Offer made by Sandeep Krishnamurthy to donate the Math Club Book he compiled to GEAC to print and sell as a fundraiser. Sandy Malone-Long will talk with Cindy Lundvall. Discussion ensued. The material needs to be obtained and reviewed before any decisions can be made.

Topic – Dianne Thurgood retirement

June 19th @ 4pm at the LWSD Resource Center. Dianne has been with the Quest department for 16 years and with the District for 31 years.

Jodi will coordinate the gift from GEAC of approximately \$100, previously approved.

Dianne's replacement will be Janette Cimburek.

Other business

Advocacy and business cards tabled for discussion at the planning session.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.