

District Advisory Meeting: 2/8/11

In Attendance:

Fern Aefsky- Superintendent	Kim Atwell - BTA President
Diane D'Uva- RMS	Dawn Clemens- BHS
Mike Mullins- South Ave.	Elizabeth Hanrahan- JVF
Donna Snowden- Glenham	Angie Winkleman- RMS

1. Today's Student Tomorrow's Teacher Program (<http://www.tstt.org>)
 - a. Nonprofit organization (similar to youth leadership program) where teachers mentor students in their own community in hopes that the students will come back to the district to teach
 - i. Students must make a 4 year commitment (grades 9-12)
 1. Students who complete the program are Guaranteed 50% college scholarship at a selection of colleges throughout the nation (50% relies on completion of program, not economic need)
 2. Participants can receive up to two elective credits in high school
 3. Participants must commit to ten events per year
 4. Parents play a role as well
 - ii. The cost is \$3,300 for each student (over the course of 4 years)
 1. BCSD has received a grant to pay for two students and is looking to gain more funding from other sources
 2. Mentor teachers are paid by the organization, not part of the BTA contract
 3. The BTA will be looking to see if they would be able to sponsor (or partially sponsor) a student
 4. Dr. Aefsky and Kim Atwell will reach out to the BEAA leadership to see if they would be willing to contribute as well
 - iii. Goal- to start the program for the 2011-2012 school year
 - iv. Michele Polhamus (guidance counselor, BHS) has familiarity with the program from her time at Manhattanville College
2. Snow related items
 - a. There have been parent complaints in the elementary school about students having the ability to go outside for recess, 2-hour delays, snow days, and make-up days
 - i. Dr. Aefsky has placed a message dealing with all of these issues on the BCSD website
 - b. Snow Day Make Up
 - i. Superintendent's Conference Days- these days already count towards our total number of days in session, thus, having students come in on the March 11th conference day would not have any impact on make-up days
 - ii. Friday 2/18 and Monday 2/20 cannot be used as make-up days because the district is under contractual obligation to have the district closed, having the district open would violate other units' contracts
 - iii. What happens if we use all the rest of the days from spring break? The Superintendent must appeal to the State, we are not required to come in after graduation
 - iv. A suggestion was made by some elementary teachers to possibly change the date of the 3/11 conference day to be on April 19th because there is a high likelihood that many students will be absent from school, it will be the best use of our time
3. Summer work schedule
 - a. BHS- Redo some sections of finish on the gym floor, replace lighting in the gym, fitness center and aux gym...add auto door closures on gallery, only access will be offices and one classroom wing, rest of building will be shut down after cleaning

- b. RMS- Access to offices and library addition only...replace all lockers building wide (no access to classroom except for cleaning), add elevator, replace gym lights, replace stage lights, parts of roof replaced, play ground area reconstructed including sidewalks and emergency road.
 - c. Sargent- Building closed...ceiling and lights replaced in 90% rooms will have asbestos floors removed, roof replaced, ramp added in all purpose room
 - d. Glenham- Building closed- ceiling and lights replaced in 70% of school, replace all roof ventilators, reconstruct boys/girls bathroom
 - e. JVF- Limited access to building (no parking available)...reconstruct parking lots in rear and north end...re-point and replace brick on building exterior (get rid of the blue tarp), asbestos removal in cafeteria floor, fence in playground
 - f. South Ave- No major work planned, will clean building and shut down, exterior brick re-pointing tentative based on finishing JVF...otherwise will be done in 2012
4. Parent University Program
- a. Will be talking place at BHS on March 3rd
 - b. Mary Tomann and Cassandra Orser are taking control of the program
 - i. The event will be paid for with non tax payer money (\$16,000)
 - ii. Keynote speaker will be Michael Falon
 - 1. Will be speaking about tolerance and bullying (he has previously given presentations to the students at RMS and BHS)
 - iii. There will be refreshments, presentations, child care (age 4 through grade 6, movie night)
 - iv. District's goal is to have students (grades 7-12), parents, and teachers at keynote address
 - v. Will be raffling off grocery cards
 - vi. Next meeting of the committee to organize Parent University will be on February 15th
5. District Budget for the 2011-2012 School Year
- a. The district is still working on the budget
 - b. The BOE knows that very difficult decisions will need to be made based on State decisions
 - c. The district is working to figure out how to preserve as many programs as possible, even if they needs to look different
 - d. Central administration does not want to make guesses as to potential cuts that will result in people panicking
 - e. Department heads have been making three levels of proposals
 - i. Proposals- A- Status quo, B- Round one of cuts, C- Contingency or worse
 - f. There will be a discussion about what is mandated versus what is not mandated
 - g. If you are interested on the New York State Council of School Superintendents position on budget cuts visit <http://www.nyscoss.org>
6. Other
- a. BOE Education Committee- Thursday 2/10 @ 7pm at BOE
 - b. 2/17- NYS Report Card released
 - c. Handouts received
 - i. Article: *I'm waiting for a different superman*
(<http://www.nyssba.org/index.php?src=news&srctype=detail&category=On%20Board%20Online%20January%2024%202011&refno=1610>)
 - ii. Article: From Teacher Quality to Effectiveness: Developing a Systemic Approach
(<http://www.dmcouncil.com/library/download/dmj/From-Teacher-Quality-to-Effectiveness-Developing-a-Systemic-Approach>) *The attendees of the meeting have the full article if you are interested
 - iii. Race To The Top- NYS plans and BCSD goals * The attendees of the meeting have the full packet if you are interested