

Summers County Board of Education
Special Meeting/ Jumping Branch Elementary School LSIC
December 10, 2012
3:30 p.m.
Minutes
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1. Roll Call

The Summers County Board of Education met in a special LSIC meeting on December 10, 2012, 3:30 p.m., at Jumping Branch Elementary School, with Ms. Sue Angell, board president, presiding over the meeting with the following board members Present: Mr. David Ballard, Dr. Deborah Clark, Mr. James Withrow and Mrs. Jean Gore.

Other staff members present: Mrs. Vicki Hinerman, *Superintendent* and Mrs. Jennifer Farley, *Business Manager*.

Principal attending: Dr. Patricia Harvey

LSIC members present were: Dr. Patricia Harvey, Janet Richmond, Susan Newsome, Sandra Richmond, Rebecca Cooper, Carol Crook, Quinne Jimenez, Ann Jimenez, Tracey Foster-Long, Jo Ann Cales, Rhnea Hylton, Pauline Meadows, and Vickie Cales.

2. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The invocation was given by Mr. Ballard and followed by the “Pledge of Allegiance.”

3. Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Dr. Clark, seconded by Mrs. Gore and by unanimous vote, the agenda was approved.

4. Local School Improvement Council

Presentations from various LSIC members were made and handouts of their presentations were given to board members that contained the following information:

I. Current Issues

-Vickie Cales informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is using data analysis to develop instructional plans to bring students up to mastery or above. She stated that teachers in grades K-5 meet weekly to analyze test results from Acuity (3-5) and AIMSweb (K-5). She also said the progress monitoring is completed every two weeks for AIMSweb and every four and a half weeks for Acuity. Teachers also met after school in November to analyze results for Acuity and AIMSweb.

Ms. Cales reported that using the results of their data analysis, teachers are able to create SPL plans for students who are not showing progress after completing their progress monitoring tests. Teachers also use the results of their data analysis to help plan groups for the Title I teacher in reading and math. This weekly review of data also helps teachers plan classroom plans to help those students who are struggling.

- Janet Richmond informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is working

on the support for personalized learning.

Teachers in grades K-5 create SPL plans for students who do not show progress on AIMSweb (K-3) and Acuity (3-5) during progress monitoring.

She reported that SPL plans have been created for students who have not shown progress on AIMSweb and Acuity assessments. Teachers use strategies that will assist struggling students in the classroom and during SPL times. Plans are reviewed by the teacher and principal weekly and strategies are adjusted as needed. Teachers have used their weekly collaboration time to discuss different strategies with their colleagues.

Mrs. Richmond stated that as the Title I teacher, she provides strategic and intensive interventions with students in grades K-5. She also said that she does benchmark and progress monitoring assessments.

- Rebecca Cooper informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is working on collaboration.

Ms. Cooper reported that teachers in grades K-5 met every Monday for two hours to collaborate. Grades 3-5 meet in the morning and grades K-2 meet in the afternoon. Teachers discuss topics such as: the five year strategic plan, classroom management, teaching strategies, individual students, individual student work, Acuity/AIMSweb data analysis, and SPL plans.

She stated that teachers have found that these weekly collaboration meetings have been very beneficial. It gives them the opportunity to discuss topics that are important to their classroom and also allows them to hear other suggestions from their colleagues. Teachers have created SPL plans for individual students according to Acuity and AIMSweb benchmark and progress monitoring results. Teachers review Acuity and AIMSweb data weekly and adjust their SPL plans accordingly. Teachers have also discussed various teaching strategies that have worked in their classrooms including cooperative learning, hands-on learning, and student directed activities.

- Ann Jimenez informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is working on parental involvement.

She reported that parents are given the opportunity to be a part of their child's educational environment. Different opportunities are available to parents throughout the year.

She stated that parents have the opportunity to volunteer during the day at the school. We also have a grandparent volunteer program. Parents are also encouraged to attend staff development sessions after school with teachers. Topics that have been offered include: technology, math, strategies, reading strategies, test-taking skills, and ipads.

- Pauline Meadows informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is working on the positive behavior program.

She reported that students earn tokens for grades and good behavior throughout the year. Students are able to spend tokens at the school Positive Behavior store every Wednesday. Ms. Foster-Long, the counselor, handles all the matters associated with the positive behavior program.

She also said the school has found that since this program has been initiated, positive behavior has improved. Students look forward to “shopping” at the Positive Behavior store and strive to collect enough tokens to “purchase” some of the bigger items. The overall school environment has improved because of this program.

- Sandy Richmond informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is working on the drama club with Tracey Foster-Long as the director of this program.

She reported that students in grades 1-5 are given the opportunity to participate in drama club performances two times a year.

Ms. Richmond stated that students have the opportunity to express themselves through dramatic plays. Teachers have found that some of the “quieter” students that join the drama club have been able to express themselves freely and have become more open in the classroom.

- Jo Ann Cales informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is working on multiculturalism.

She said that some of these activities are as follows: Christmas program, Thanksgiving Native American/pilgrim activity, intro to Spanish words, famous historical figure portrayal (5th grade), colonial time period re-enactment (5th grade), career awareness - career paths, and bullying prevention.

II. Special Projects

< Pauline Meadows informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary is working on making sure that they are doing everything they are supposed to be doing in preparation for monitoring and audits.

She stated that they realize the importance of showing that they are an efficient and effective school whose main focus is the children of their school and putting student achievement as paramount in everything that they do. She said they wanted to make sure they have dotted their I's and crossed their t's. She stated that they are prepared for the federal headstart monitoring review. She also said that they are preparing documentation for the state audit of OEPA (office of performance audits) that is in April. They are uploading the federal Title I information into the WVEIS system.

- Ann Jimenez informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary has a special project from the central office - the installation of the wireless capabilities in their school. She said that this will help to provide increased technology in their school for instruction. She said the central office has also purchased them a new mobile computer lab with thinkpads. She stated that this will help their school to provide increased technology in their curriculum for instruction. Their school wishes to thank the central office for this technology expansion and for the technology integration specialist that has been provided them.

III. Discipline

- Tracey Foster-Long informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary has had two referrals sent to the office for disciplinary measures this school year. One was a bus conduct problem in which the parent was contacted for help with the discipline. The other was a student who had an anger management problem and ended up kicking rocks which hit a teacher on the side of the head. That student received 3 days in school suspension and lessons on the inappropriate behaviors that were manifested during the incident. There have been no further problems thus far with these 2 students.

- Vickie Cales informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary that when teachers are asked what they want you to know about our school, the teachers want you to know the following:

- We want our students to do their very best. We have the same goals and expectations at every level so that the children know throughout their schooling here what we, as teachers, want from the students and what we expect.

- Our students are quite savvy with the use of the laptop computers for use in education.

- The behavior of our students is outstanding.

- We have good working conditions.

- Our faculty works together to educate our students.

- Our school runs smoothly.

- We believe our school is family oriented and child centered.

IV. Progress Toward Meeting the Strategic Plan

-Janet Richmond informed board members that Jumping Branch Elementary did make adequate yearly progress this year. In doing the data analysis and looking at the results of the WESTEST 2, we determined that we needed to put special effort into math. The 5 Year Strategic Plan has been written and submitted and has emphasized bringing up the math scores. We are using technology lessons on math, data analysis on math scores from the Acuity benchmarking and progress monitoring. She stated that being the Title I teacher, she provides support for personalized learning in math. In January, we will have a book study on “Math Talks” Thus, the school is actively working to meet the objectives of the strategic plan and make continuous school improvement.

-Quinne Jimenez informed board members that when students are asked about what they would like you to know about Jumping Elementary, they want you to know the following:

- The teachers care about their well-being and they care about the school.

- Teachers strive to help the students succeed.

- Teachers are good to them, teach well, show respect toward students, and are nice and friendly.

- The school is a non-violent and bully free school. No one picks on them at school.

- The students try hard to learn. They want to do their very best.

- They work to be “smart” kids.

- They learn a lot from every teacher. Students believe that the teachers try to explain things and give extra help when needed.
- Tracey Foster-Long informed board members that the parents and community want you to know this about Jumping Branch Elementary:
 - Our school is a good schools.
 - Teachers put in time and effort. Parents don't know how they get everything done and still are able to teach so well.
 - Parents and community want you to know that it would be devastating for the school to close.
 - Parents want you to know how important it is for when children have trouble, for Janet Richmond to be able to work with them.
 - Parents want you to know that our children thrive here and our children love to come to school.
- Ann Jimenez informed board members that parents and community want you to know that Jumping Branch Elementary has exemplary teachers that engage students in a sheltered, structured, nurturing environment that is conducive to meeting academic achievement requirements. At our school, we change to meet the 21st century goals - yet, at the same time, we can remain the same in certain traditional ways that are important. Parents do not even need to question the ways the school needs to change or to remain the same - the school is so in tune with what should stay the same and what should change to meet the goals of the 21st century - and we, as parents verify, without question that our school knows what to do. Parents appreciate the Summers County Board of Educations members, Superintendent Hinerman, and the central office for their continued support. Parents thank president, Sue Angell, because this is her school and everything they do as parents, community, teachers, and children in regard to this school, they take seriously because they want to represent her school well.

5. Adjournment

Upon a motion by Dr. Clark, seconded by Mrs. Gore and by unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned