

Minutes

Bolinas-Stinson Union School District

Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees and BSUSD Staff May 2, 2017

Meeting Time and Location:

3:15 p.m.

Bolinas Campus – Middle School Classroom

1. Call Meeting to order

The meeting was called to order at 3:20. All trustees were present as was Supt. Carroll

2. Approval of Agenda

M/S by Marcotte/Pfeiffer

3. Public Comments:

None

4. Discussion

Class configurations: An opportunity for staff to share their recommendation that was made to the Superintendent for class configurations and review the process that was followed between January 9 and April 18.

Supt. Carroll opened the discussion; seven options were originally reviewed by staff in weekly meeting since January. Principal Richardson led the process where staff narrowed the options from 7 to 4 to eventually one, known as D. Once this options was identified, Staff were polled on the location of the 1/2 classroom. During this process parent guardian input was requested thru an online survey and a parent information evening on 4/4/17.

Board President Siedman open the floor to staff at 3:35

Points made by staff included:

- What is the best we as a school can do for the students we have*
- Multi-age classes are an important ingredient for a dynamic classroom experience*
- An advantage of mixing are the social emotional development; multi-age relationships/friendships*
- In most school a class of 17 students is considered small*
- Staff discussions/decisions were made with specific student groups in mind*
- A lot of time has been spend on this and this conversation will probably be annual one; keep teachers in the same grade level so that consistency and competency can be attained -; forget about sizes and concentrate on academics*
- Five components of this decision, 1. Content-what do we want to teach the kids, 2. Pedagogical model, 3. Best grouping for instructional model, 4. Schedule and 5. Staff. Middle school hopes to adopt a more project based learning model- a 7/8 combo will achieve this*
- Supports a single grade levels*
- No configuration will make everyone happy; the schools job is to do the greatest good for the greatest number of students*
- Parent input , will in the future, be requested early on in configuration discussions to alleviate misunderstandings and give them adequate time to voice their opinions*
- Supports continuation of a stand-alone 3rd grade class with a 4/5 or 4/5/6 combo; Teachers need to know how to teach in a multi-grade setting*
- Doesn't feel like the decision was based on specific children or groups in mind; in a school this size (student census and staff) the district should be able to tailor instruction to each child and or each class*
- Staff should not spend so much time on configurations*
- This is a small school; focus on curriculum and more students will want to come here*

Points made

by non-staff:

5. Public Comments:

Would like the district to investigate the purchase of one or two small vans (without special driver's license) for student transport

6. Meeting adjourned

M/S by Marcotte/Pfeiffer

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10

The next regular Board meeting will be held on 5/9/2017 at the Bolinas Campus

Approved: _____ 5/9/2017