

## **Salem Elementary Community Council Meeting, October 23, 2008**

Chris welcomed everyone to this meeting. In attendance were: Lana Parker, Kristina Christensen, Karen Weight, Karen Wilcox, Anthony Bowden, Dave Hansen, Ken VanAusdal, and Chris Vest.

Ken started the meeting by discussing last springs AYP and U-Pass information with the members of the council and explained to them how progress is tracked each year and what our obligations are for this years tests come spring. The question was asked, "Do we lose funding if we don't pass?" answer We still receive funding but we are under obligation to inform all parents and community members that we did not pass and what we will do to correct the infraction.

Ken pointed out to members that our school is really pushing the multiplication facts this year and as a school we are tracking each student's progress, each 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grader took a timed fact test at the beginning of the year and will take another one at the end of the year and faculty will be testing the students throughout the year. We will be assessing the data we collect to help us set goals for the short and long term. Hopefully the students will learn the facts earlier in their education.

Some of our trust lands monies have gone to hiring reading tutors and some went to purchasing the mobile computer lab. We will be receiving this Friday some extra training from Apple on some of the extra tools this lab has to offer. We would like to get our building wired for wireless internet for the computers, we feel this would be one more tool teachers and students could benefit. We would need to purchase towers and then see if the land trust monies could be used to wire the building and pay for the software. We would also like to add some big screen projectors at each grade level, starting with the upper grades, teachers have expressed an interest in finding a way to make this happen as soon as possible. 6<sup>th</sup> grade has been using computers and big screens to project data and compare common assessments between the two classes.

Karen Weight made a motion to make revenue available for this endeavor and Lana Parker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously!

It looks like projectors can be purchase for somewhere around \$500 to \$700 so we feel this is a project we can move forward with. Mr. Bowden gave a presentation to the members to show how 6<sup>th</sup> grade has been using this technology so an entire class can be presented materials, take tests, and even work multiplication tests.

The emergency preparedness kits were evaluated and everything in them looks to be current and usable. The council was told about our monthly fire and disaster drills that we practice and how we can evacuate the building very quickly because of some changes we made this year in accordance with some perspectives offered by Mr. VanAusdal and the Salem Police Dept.

Lana wanted to know how we work our "Think Time" intervention at the school. Mr. VanAusdal explained how they work and how it affects a child's behavior.

Chris reminded council members of the meeting schedule for the remainder of the year and the meeting was then adjourned.