

ACOS

Meeting Notes: January 11th, 2012

Meeting began at 9:50 am January 11th, 2012, in the Quest portable at Hidden Creek Elementary School.

Present:

Maureen, Trina, Tracy, Joanne, Janet

Topics:

- December 7th Meeting Notes
 - No questions or comments.
- Brain Power Bins Update (Maureen)
 - Letters sent out to publishers to get permission to use pages of their materials have been returned, but email requests have yielded two positive responses so far. Since the attempt to reach the publishers for permission has been made, this should offer protection against legal issues if they come up.
 - Christy from the district office has a substitute working on putting bins together.
 - There is an issue with the number of copies that have been made for the bins that is being straightened out.
 - Brain Power Bins should be in circulation by the end of next week.
 - Publicizing the bins
 - Second grade teachers attending the district meeting on the 24th will be told about the existence of the bins.
 - Instructional specialists will inform teachers about the bins at staff meetings.
 - Concern has been expressed that if the bins are not located in the classrooms (as opposed to the resource rooms) this may limit their use.
 - Need to promote how the bins should be used.
- Quest Nominations
 - Greg will inform 2nd grade teachers about the Quest nominations at the district meeting.
 - Discussed 'robo-call' announcement of Quest nominations.
 - Each school should be sending home a principal's message announcing Quest nominations.
- ACOS Website
 - Maureen has obtained permission to link the ACOS website to the Quest section of the SKSD website.
- ACOS Facebook Page
 - We can create a Facebook page for ACOS.
 - Groups to possibly link to the page ("Likes")
 - Chamber of Commerce
 - Rotary
 - Kiwanis
 - Soroptimist Intl. of Port Orchard
 - PTA
 - Macaroni Kids
 - Will think of more possibilities and page administrators will add them or email suggestions to Janet to add.

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- Events to add to the FB page
 - o Quest Nominations
 - o Gifted Education Day
 - o Connections Symposium
- Discussed other content to add to the FB page such as informative videos.
- Discussed spreading the word about ACOS on Facebook, including reaching out to former Quest teachers and administrators with FB accounts.
- Discussed General Strategies for Promoting ACOS
 - Need to check with the district about posting on the SKSD Facebook page.
 - Tracy suggested making up little business cards to hand out to parents at parent/teacher conferences, as well as printing up flyers with contact information tear-offs to post around town.
 - Maureen likes the idea of printing up and distributing simple, black and white brochures containing information about our group.
- SKSD Gifted Ed Programs Compare Favorably to Programs in Other Areas (Maureen)
 - o Funding for gifted education is mandated in our state as part of general education.
 - o SKSD is supportive of the Quest program.
 - o SKSD's Quest elementary program is an entire day per grade level and has it's own classroom which is well equipped with computer notebooks.
- Discussed Upcoming Events
 - Gifted Education Day (Waetag) date has changed from January 27th to January 23rd. Maureen sent out an email to the parent community to let them know.
 - Trina will send out an email to let the parent community know about the Connections Symposium on February 4th (which will focus on advocacy and parent breakout groups). Tracy suggested putting sticky notes in Quest planners.
 - Janet will post these events (along with Quest nominations) on the Facebook page.
- Discussed Formal Announcement of ACOS
 - Joanne speculated that we could apply for a permit to host an event at one of the schools in one of the multi-purpose rooms.
 - Maureen wondered if we should invite a speaker. Could do a Powerpoint presentation.
 - Decided we might want to see what the response is after announcing ACOS on Facebook before deciding what sort of kick-off event would be appropriate.

Actions During Meeting:

- Maureen added the ACOS link to the Quest page of the district website.

Future Actions Agreed Upon:

- Maureen will check with the SKSD Facebook page to see about ACOS posting status updates on their page.
- Trina and Joanne will coordinate getting the Brain Power Bins finished.
- Janet will complete and publish the ACOS Facebook page.

Next meeting:

February 8th, 9:45 am, in the Quest portable of Hidden Creek Elementary School.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:50 am.

Notes recorded by Janet.