

## Elmwood School Council Meeting

### Minutes

December 7, 2010

The meeting began at 2:45 in the Elmwood Conference Room.

**Present,** Diane Bird, Pat DiCostanza, Anna Dixon, Elizabeth Guerra, David Ljungberg, Alexis Miller, Donna Orellana, Ilene Silver

**Absent:** Kathy Laflash, Laura O'Malley

- Minutes from the November 9, 2010 meeting were accepted as written.
- Council members were updated on changes in special education service delivery for some students, as well as the new learning spaces created through the use of floor to ceiling dividers, funded by the ARRA Grant.
  - This reorganization is aligned to the School Council additional goal to the School Improvement Plan resulting from our Special Education cohort's AYP status in ELA.
- Crisis Drill
  - Elmwood's students and staff successfully participated in a Crisis Drill devised by Dr. Mary Colombo. The premise was a bomb hidden in the building due to detonate within the next 15 minutes. The CRT decided to evacuate immediately to the large field. Students were eating lunch at the time. This was the first time a drill had occurred during lunch. Everyone remained calm and followed directions given to them. A team of 6 observers from Central Office and the other schools rated the drill and determined that it was a success. The next drill will revolve around a leak in the gas line that is under the Elmwood field. Lessons learned were that we need a more efficient means of communicating with those in the cafeteria and gym—since the intercom can not be heard in those locations. This was reported to the District Safety Committee for study and correction.
- Cafeteria Menu
  - Discussed the quality of Elmwood's cafeteria food and it was found lacking.
  - Concerns centered around amount of fat, salt, and lack of variety—as well as fresh fruit availability and lack of nutritional values available to parents.
  - Parents are willing to pay more for higher quality food.
  - Diane Bird and Alexis Miller are interested in joining the newly formed Food Committee.
  - Ilene Silver will communicate their willingness to participate to co-chairs Ron Laverdiere and Heidi Marquedant.
- Budget Update
  - Dr. Phelan is considering reducing the number of proposed third grade classes from 14 to 13. This will result in a projected class size of 23 in most, with one at 24.
- The Gift Giving Policy recently sent to parents and staff was reviewed.

Elmwood's next School Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 11 at 2:45 in the Elmwood Conference Room. Members of the public are welcome.

The meeting adjourned at 3:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Ilene S. Silver.