



Lawrence Family Development Charter School

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Strengthening families . . . building community

School Site Council Minutes

Wednesday, June 7, 2011

Mr. Carrero welcomed everyone to our last school site council of the year.

Parents were informed about GMADE & GRADE test results. He informed parents of our overall solid academic school year. Mr. Carrero also talked about our success this school year in the following areas: School Expansion, adding 20 additional K-1 students for a total of 200 students over the next few years starting in September 2011.

The initial plans to add a 2nd floor over the K-2 building was not approved by the architects. We would have to demolish K2 building and construct brand new K-2 center with a cafeteria, and a new playground. Due to being a public institution and having to abide by public law, the proceeds we have in the bank cannot be used to fund this project but rather we would need to go out and bid publicly for the construction of a new K-2 building. Mr. Carrero informed parents that public bidding is not always a good thing. Going into public projects can cause additional cost sometimes up to 30-40% of wages. What we initially thought would cost us 1.2 million is now calculated to be around 2.2 million. We have already started working with different banks, and they are very enthusiastic to work with us.

We have started to develop an early childhood program (2 years 9 months) if state allows with reduced rates, vouchers, etc. --this would be a project for the year 2014. It was made very clear that this childhood center is not an automatic entrance to LFDCS--children would still need to go through the lottery process.

Mr. Carrero talked to parents about this year's increased partnerships and pilot programs with the following colleges and universities: University of Salem (previously Salem College), Merrimack College, Northern Essex Community College and UMASS Lowell.

Parents were reminded of how LFDCS has taken some of their suggestions through our Annual Parent Survey and were encouraged to continue to do so. Some suggestions in years past have been to provide English as a second language classes, citizenship classes, and computer classes which we are happy to say have all been implemented with great participation and success.

Parents were informed per Mrs. Burgett's recommendation to the board that the students last day of school will be a half day.

Mr. Carrero reminded parents of summer school attendance and the reason for attending.

Important upcoming dates were noted:

- Friday, June 10th and 13th - 8th grade Portfolio presentation
- Thursday, June 16th - 8th grade Awards dinner
- Friday, June 17th - 8th grade graduation
- Monday, June 20th - K-2 graduation

Scholarship money was talked about briefly informing parents how we raised over \$30,000 this year for scholarships. Parents were also thanked for their support of fund raisers--our year-end picnic table raised a total of \$2, 455.

Parents were wished a safe summer.