

School Council Meeting Minutes

November 27, 2013

7:45 a.m.-8:45 a.m.

Members of the Council:	Lisa Desjarlais: Pelham School principal Suzanne Quinlan: Classroom teacher Deborah Jacque: Classroom teacher, Sarah Frenette: Pelham School parent Doreen Redi: Pelham School Parent Mike Hayes: Parent Ron Mannino: Community Volunteer
General	Ad hoc general comments on the status of the regionalization plan and introduction of a new council member-Mike Hayes
School Improvement Plan	<p>Discussed Pelham School's activities relating to newly approved goal 2D of the Pelham School Improvement Plan 2013-2014.</p> <p>Goal 2D: *Examine systems and practices in school as related to equity. *Increased focus on diversity within the school community. * Identify areas within the curriculum to incorporate culturally proficient practices and teaching materials. *Explore opportunities to celebrate and honor cultural traditions and heritage</p> <p>Discussion focused on various diversity and equity issues. How to promote continuous involvement and cultural proficiency of all stakeholders.</p> <p>Sarah suggested that an inventory of already in place protocols should be compiled. Each classroom should take stock of what is already being done and celebrate its achievements.</p> <p>Mike inquired about an existing achievement gap evidence of various kinds. Lisa reviewed ways the Pelham School tracked Students at Risk and indicated the need for additional benchmarks.</p>
Information Technology	IT improvements were reviewed.
Pelham School Autonomy	Mike brought up the issue of Pelham School autonomy under the proposed regionalization plan. His concern: Pelham School could become just another Amherst Elementary School.
Common Core	Lisa began a discussion of the common core alignment of new science standards.
Pelham School Committee	Debbie Jacques suggested that in the past the Pelham School Committee asked "What is Best of Pelham School?" as a guide and that seems to have changed. Lisa suggested otherwise.
Upcoming Meeting	The School Council will meet on the first Thursday, January 9, 2014 at 7:45.

Respectfully submitted by Ron Mannino