

**PEEPLS ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES  
October 15, 2009**

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Doug Warner at 7:02. Members present: Erin Roberson, Jason Sutton, Doug Warner, Sonya Farr, Jill Sellers, Kent Robinson, and Monica Thomas.
2. Approval of August 27, 2009 Minutes – The motion to approve the minutes was made by Monica Thomas and seconded by Kent Robinson. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Recognition of Visitors/Speakers
  - Assistant Principal, Buffy Blodgett
  - Curt Cearley, Director of Technology
4. New Business
  - School System Technology Update – Curt Cearley
    - i. Student Information System – Infinite Campus – used to keep attendance, and to record services provided to students (through Special Education, Enrichment, and Early Intervention Program) which is used to gain state and federal funding based on our reporting. Infinite Campus is also used as a student information database, as well as a gradebook (for 4<sup>th</sup> and up) and report card system for teachers. The system is geared more toward the high school, so it has to be tweaked for elementary. Fourth and Fifth grades will soon begin inputting grades into the program after being trained later in November. After that, parents will be able to view their students' grades online.
    - ii. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Classrooms – In phase one, classrooms will be outfitted with projector systems for computers, speakers, sound field systems to project teacher voices across the classroom, and student response (clicker) systems (1 response system per grade level in phase 1). In phase 2, all classrooms will receive the student response systems and pre-existing systems will receive upgrades. All installation will be done when students are not in the buildings. The order in which schools receive installation has not yet been determined. Empty classrooms will not be installed until they are filled because we don't want warranties to expire when no one is using the equipment.
    - iii. Our county level technology department is now short three technicians due to retirements and such. Due to budget restraints, these positions will not be filled, so they are working short-handed.
    - iv. Our county has moved to a new security/filter system, which is more user-friendly and safer for usage by students and personnel.
    - v. ReuAnn Annis, Peeples' Technology Specialist, has been very active in the county level technology decisions. Her job is changing in our school, as we need her for a great deal of tech support and teaching staff how to

use the new equipment. She is helping teachers create lessons and is helping teachers become comfortable with new equipment as we get it. Mr. Cearley commended Mrs. Roberson and Mrs. Annis for the way they are using Mrs. Annis' expertise in helping teachers and students in using technology.

vi. It is now looking as if the ESPLOST money will be able to be used for some extra technology purchases that we had been planning to purchase with school-based money. That's good news, because it will "free up" our money for other technology purchases.

- CogAT Scores – Cognitive Abilities Test – This test gives information about students' *ability* to learn. This test is given to students in the spring of kindergarten and the fall of second grade at our school every year. Comparison of the last three years was given to council members. A score of 100 (or 50<sup>th</sup> percentile) is the national average. There is not much variance from year to year at our school. Teachers use this information to know how students learn so they can tailor their instruction to meet the needs of their students.
- ITBS Scores are not yet available. We will discuss these scores at our next meeting.
- Scholastic Reading Inventory Results – Computerized assessment given to fourth and fifth graders. A handout was given to council members and explained by Mrs. Blodgett. This inventory gives each student a Lexile score, which tells the students the level of books they are ready to read. It also gives some book title suggestions. The downfall of these suggestions is that they are all books published by Scholastic (since the inventory is also published by Scholastic), so our media center may not have all the titles suggested.
- Partners in Education Breakfast Update – Approximately 12 Partners were in attendance. Follow-up meetings/conversations will help to involve partners in our school.

#### 5. Unfinished or Continued Business

- PTO Project Update – Mini-amphitheater – Kent Robinson said Richie Phillips, Decks by Design, is working on getting required permits. Weather is pushing the start date back. The hope is to finish by the end of December. Richie will also pour and connect the cart path and the golf cart corral to help fight erosion and make the entrance smoother.
- Newsletter Feedback Results – newsletter responses about our Open House will be shared next meeting– staff comments were positive.
- Board of Education Meeting Update – There is concern that the state of Georgia will make more cuts. If that happens, our county will need to make more adjustments. Our system anticipates about \$6 million in reserve by the end of the school year. Committees have been formed to make decisions in the event the governor makes more budget cuts. Several school systems are going to some creative calendars, such as a 4-day school week with longer hours each day. Erin stated that to her knowledge, our school board is not seriously considering drastic changes to the instructional day calendar.

- ESPLOST meeting update – Jason Sutton - Met at Cleveland Elementary to see 21<sup>st</sup> Century equipment that has been installed there. Laura Brock, comptroller, explained at the meeting that ESPLOST funds are actually more than expected. Therefore, we will have funds for maintenance of the new equipment as well as purchases of textbooks. This means that other monies will hopefully be freed up for other necessary spending.
  - Doug Warner asked about flu in the school. Mrs. Roberson reported that it seems to ebb and flow. If classrooms have an outbreak, we use “social distancing” to limit the contact between students in the “infected” class with other students in the school. This seems to be very effective and keeps the virus from spreading.
6. Proposed Agenda Items for January 14, 2010
- Sandra Watson, Fayette County Schools Balanced Report Card (not a student report card, a reporting system on the progress of our county)
  - Flu update and “flu free schools”
  - ITBS update
7. Adjourn – The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jill Sellers and seconded by Sonya Farr. The meeting was adjourned by Doug Warner at 8:08.