

Notes from Site Council, April 9, 2009

Myrna Abrego welcomed everyone. It's a beautiful evening let's try to wrap up early. She introduced Ms. Storhoff.

Wendi Storhoff: Introduced herself as an ELL teacher at North End. Said a group of staff had thought it would be fun for school learning environment to have a big Earth Day event. They are hoping for it to be the biggest thing North End has ever done! Based on the fact that over 400 people attended the carnival, with nicer weather perhaps over 600 people would come. It will be billed as a community event, with the whole North End Community and community partners being invited. There will be food at 5:00 in the cafeteria, 6:15 people can stroll through the halls and look at the displays. There will be science displays, and interactive activities. The event also includes student drawings and a music concert, with the theme World and Earth. Live music in the gym from 7-8. It will be a Latin band with dancing. We need help with ideas on how to get the word out. We want to make sure kids and families come. How can we work together?

A big part of the science fair for Earth Day is student work. Science standards must be met in MCA's. These standards were taught while working on the Earth Day projects. There is an art sculpture made with recycled items. Every child has at least one thing to show for Earth day.

We would love volunteers. People should contact Myrna or Tou about volunteering. Get ALC students to help. Please let people know.

Parent (Ms. Williams): Can we have t-shirts or buttons with Home Of Future Leaders on it ready by Earth Day?

Bell: We can talk about it.

Mr. Bell: We need to recruit more students to come to North End. There is \$325,000 from last year contingent on enrollment. More students equals more money. Talk to parents during Earth Day. Placement Center will be here to enroll students that night.

Parent asked if anyone is contacting current families about returning next year.

Bell: Some students are not returning because of the gender split. Test scores have been down in the past and we are on AYP, that scares parents. We need to tell our story. Bring in the community and prospective families and let them see the changes. I like to think this is a better place than it was 2 years ago. A board member, Mr. Gilbert, saw 3 things when he was here that impressed him: 1) A pleasant welcome, 2) students smiling, and 3) student work is displayed in the halls.

We have a lot of wonderful things going on here at North End but the bottom line is the test scores. We need to get off of AYP or the whole school will be restructured. Two more years of low test scores will mean restructuring.

Myrna: Casey O'Brien will video tape the Earth Day event. He is the camera guy for Channel 17, public television. The Earth Day event will be aired on channel 17.

Wendi: Take flyers and leave them in stores or wherever we can advertise.

Anne Gomez: One way to publicize this event and our school is to set up a table outside of K-Mart or Double Dragon, or the Flea Market, on the weekends and hand out flyers. Put up flyers in apartment buildings.

Anne G.: North End is closed this summer, but we will be in the Rice St. Parade. We plan to make huge puppets to wear in the parade

A Cambodian Festival will be held in Farmington this summer. Date not yet set. More information will be coming.

Lanita Bennet: There will be a lead testing clinic on May 5<sup>th</sup> for children 9 months to 6 years of age. It is a simple finger prick to test for lead poisoning.

We will have a Spring Cleaning life skills class at North End. There will also be a class to help adults write resumes and improve interview skills. More information on these workshops will be coming.

Last day of ALC will be April 22. Students will have a craft to work on and then it will be displayed in the Earth Day event.

The next site council will be Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup> along with the spring band concert.