

LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 101 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tuesday, February 10, 2015
9:00 am to 2:00 pm

Various Locations Throughout the District

Board/Student Linkage and Board Workshop

Present: Mark Mansell, Cris Yaw, Todd Jones, Bob Taylor, John Parsons and Wendy Chord

Minutes taken by: Laurie Kansanback

The Board began their linkage this year with students in the elementary school. Bobcat Ambassadors (4th and 5th graders) sat in groups of three to four students at tables and met for 10 minutes at a time with individual board members. There were no set questions and board members chose discussion topics at their discretion.

Lively discussions took place around technology ("There appears to be a bit of a problem with the 'wee-fee' in the round building!"); food service ("Can the staff at the K8 PLEASE wear hair nets?"); over-crowding in common spaces (cafeteria and playshed) and school uniforms ("I would feel all RESTRICTED – no good!").

Next, the Board went to the high school where they met with 52 students from all grades and groups (i.e. leadership, athletics, academics, hicks, etc.). Topics ranged from positive comments on the new math curriculum to college athletic options. Students shared that they feel academically prepared for college but feel not as prepared when it comes to "life skills" such as doing taxes. They expressed a desire to have more opportunities for community involvement and would like to see more languages than just Spanish and German available.

A Board member asked for thoughts on joining our school from anyone who had moved here in middle or high school. Several students shared that they had come and found the transition very easy, sharing that our school environment is "family like", "real & honest" and teachers care about students.

The linkage with the middle school students consisted of prepared presentations of the students' perceptions of food service, technology, electives and school culture. The presentations were delivered with a great deal of poise and provided excellent opportunities to pose questions about some of the challenges one would face to accomplish their "wish lists".

The Board then convened in the HS conference room for lunch and their workshop. A fair amount of time was spent discussing what was learned at the linkage as well as a general discussion of the upcoming election of 3 of our Board directorships.

As this was a workshop of the board, no action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm.

Member

Member

Member

Member

Member

Board Secretary