LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 101
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of Board Workshop/Community Linkage Meeting
Tuesday, October 11, 2011
7:00 PM
High School Library

Present: Mark Mansell, John Parsons, Bob Taylor, Todd Jones, Cris Yaw and Wendy Chord
Minutes taken by: Laurie Kansanback
Administrators: Dave Holmes and Carol Patton
Guests: Troy Van Dinter, Christy Bork, Sue Fox, Emily Gedenberg, Walter Hansen, Karen Kennedy, Melissa Flatt, Barb Hulbert and Josh Soske

Mr. Taylor called the meeting to order at 7 pm with the flag salute. After welcoming our guests he turned the meeting to Dr. Mansell to explain the three basic questions policy governance asks:

- What do we want to accomplish?
- How do we know it?
- How do we hold the Superintendent accountable?

After an explanation of these things, the discussion was opened to the floor. The following are the topics discussed during the linkage:

1. Real concerns about our math program. Does not feel parents/community are being listened to. Time to "think differently" about how we are responding to math concerns. Her students who are exceptional students could not pass COMPASS test in math.
2. Second math concern – is having kids tutored at their own expense.
3. Math tutor spoke up and said she believes we are "missing the boat" in math.
4. Another parent sees a different side of math program. Stated ALL his students have been successful in college and passed the COMPASS with no problem.
5. Another parent stated she thinks the math program (at least at the elementary) just needs to be more responsive to student need. Nothing for the kids that "get it" to move on to and be challenged.
6. Dr. Mansell acknowledged what everyone was saying.
7. Mr. Holmes explained success maker to everyone.
8. Another parent shared some concerns about math.
9. Another parent shared some positives about how we draw kids in and get them excited about school. He talked about jazz band and went on to say no one size fits all – we need to get kids working at their own level and we are starting to do that from his observations.
10. Concerns were expressed about how teachers are riffed by seniority rather than by skill set. Dr. Mansell explained that riffing is done by contractual requirements and that is the way it is at this time.
11. Talk turned to the needs around VocEd and the pathways. Not all parents have seen this model.
12. Dr. Mansell shared the concepts behind "flipping" classrooms, teaming, differentiating instruction, etc.
13. Board member Jones stated he believes we have a problem in math and we need to teach fundamentals.

The community linkage ended at approximately 8:35 pm. The board then debriefed the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

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Member	Board Secretary