

EDUCATION COMMITTEE NOTES

5/16/05

I. SMS MIDDLE SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

SMS Principal Dick Dunning accompanied by his Vice Principal Bruce Dechert capably filled in for teacher Chris Howe who was unfortunately unable to join us. Chris was the spearhead and shepard of the nomination process.

The process consisted of a lengthy written application, an extensive and very useful school self study and a visit from the judging team.

It was truly a team effort with staff, students, parents, board and community members all contributing and certainly the whole district celebrating!

I. NWEA, MEASURES OF ACADEMIC PROGRESS (MAP)

Emily Harknett, our district mentor led us through a presentation similar to one she will share with new incoming teachers. It was a good start to our understanding of assessment in our district.

NWEA=Northwestern Evaluation Association, the company who puts out the testing.

MAP=Measures of Academic Progress which helps us gauge AYP or a student's Annual Yearly Progress.

We currently test once a year but can test up to 4xs a year.

This tests the instructional level of the student and the test accommodates the student at the level where he/she is at.

The information can be broken down into a variety of ways which help teachers directly inform their instruction.

NWEA provides resources for both teacher and families.

I. OTHER

Gail Cromwell spoke about the issue of an advisory program for the high school and how we could make that happen. She also shared with us some data pertaining to certificates that are earned from our ATC. Both items will be followed by this committee.

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Our next meeting will be on 6/6/05 and we will be hearing about the Special Education year long review process.

Respectfully submitted by,

Christy Greene
Education Committee Chairperson