

**Southeast Area Education Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes May 9, 2011**

Meeting called to order: 7:00PM

Advisory Council Members: Bill Bafitis, Jackie Brewster, Jeanie Jung, Barb McCullough, Sandra Skordalos, Bud Staigerwald & Katie Staigerwald

Attendees: Amy Taylor (Charlesmont ES PTA Secretary) & Marsha Ayres (Charlesmont ES Principal)

Presenters: Nancy Baumann (Resource Teacher- Liberal Arts), Laura Mossa (Resource Teacher- Liberal Arts) & Nancy Nibali (Resource Teacher – Title I)

### 100 Book Challenge and Reading Research Labs

A PowerPoint presentation was utilized with handouts. This information comes directly from that PowerPoint:

- Nearly two-thirds of low-income American families do not own any books for their children.
- 100 Book Challenge is a standard-based independent reading and accountability system, which is currently utilized in 36 elementary schools in grades K-5. It is implemented in all Title I elementary schools.
- Children participate in the selection of the books they read.
- Children are held responsible for their reading.
- Children are provided with a daily, consistent time for independent reading.
- Children are provided with opportunities to share their insights of their own independent reading and to respond to insights of others.
- Students need to learn approximately 32,000 words between 1<sup>st</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade.
- Every classroom has 10 baskets of books. They are balanced with both fiction and non-fiction books. Books are rotated between classrooms. Book bin are leveled by color (reading level).
- Students self-select books that they can and want to read.
- Student read at their “just right” level- “easy books for hard thinking”
- Reading program comes with all of the materials – books, book bags, skills cards, log sheet, and folder
- Program consists of 15 minutes of reading in class, teacher conference with each student and sharing. There is also reading at home.
- One step is 15 minutes of reading.
- Teachers gain greater understanding of student’s strengths and needs through conferencing.
- Teachers input data online.
- Students are asked to read for 15 minutes at home with parent monitoring.
- Student logs the first title if they are reading multiple books or the chapter of a novel.
- Parent initials log.
- Goal is 100 steps a quarter or 400 steps for the year.
- We were given copies of the books and skill card to review.

- Students receive a medal and a color folder when they reach certain goals.
- There is more information on the BCPS website: [www.bcps.org/offices/prek-12/100\\_book\\_challenge.html](http://www.bcps.org/offices/prek-12/100_book_challenge.html)
- Common Core standards – “To build a foundation for college and career readiness, students must read widely and deeply from among a broad range of high-quality, increasingly challenging library and informational texts”
- Reading Research Labs in all Title I schools.
- It takes roughly nine weeks for a student to create their own non-fiction book.
- Daily Readers’ Workshops and Daily Writers’ Workshops
- First, they select a subtopic. Next, they research their subtopic. Followed by the writing process – drafting, revising, editing and illustrating. Finally, completing and presenting at a celebration.
- The principal of Charlesmont ES, Marsha Ayres shared with us the books from one of her first grade teacher’s class. She also took the Advisory Council into the hallway to show how they celebrate the students’ progress by a drive across the country.

Presentation Period Ended 8:15PM

Advisory Council Meeting:

It was brought to our attention that one of our area high schools was telling seniors that their last day was May 13<sup>th</sup>, which was creating issues at the other high schools. Those seniors did not understand why they had to attend school until May 27<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that we write to Ms. Prumo and Ms. Stiffler to obtain an answer, since we no longer have area superintendents attend our meetings.

Another concern was regarding STEM Fair projects. At one local school the parents do not see the project until they attend the school STEM Fair while other schools do the entire project at home and some schools do part at school and part at home. This is fine at the school level competition, but when you attend the Baltimore County STEM Fair it does not seem fair. It was decided we write Ms. Prumo and Ms. Stiffler to obtain an answer, since we no longer have area superintendents attend our meetings.

One final concern was raised about how the Carson Scholarship is handled in each school. Some of us knew about the scholarship and others did not. Many schools handle this through the guidance counselor. It was suggested to look for the information online.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:08PM

Next meeting: June 13<sup>th</sup> at Squire’s Restaurant – Planning 2011-2012