

Red Book/Behavior Interventions Committee- October 16, 2012, 5 PM

Members present: Julie Maher, Sue Scott, Sue Gray, Cathy Slee, Joanne Policht, Ann Blickhahn, Cathy Cortez, Maggi Burkhardt, Julianne Maher, Debby Lynch, Susan Wulczyn

Review of the Second Step curriculum:

- Sue Scott reported the kinds of activities used in the classroom- the activities are meaningful and carry over into the classroom
- School-wide Character traits are brought in at some levels
- Other teachers noted congruence with State Standards as well as with other curricula

Reviewed the recent Federal resource document on Restraint and Seclusion including the district's procedures for handling Restraint and Seclusion

- All relevant policies and best practices are followed including annual reporting to the Superintendent, documentation of incidents, reporting to parents, and use of follow up when there is a pattern of restraints
- Maggi Burkhardt reviewed the District's practice of using Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) training to assure that all restraints comply with research based procedures for de-escalation first, and use of restraint for imminent safety risks.
- The District currently is updating the form for documentation of restraints for consistency and ease of use.

Review of "Special Education-Discipline" by Klein, Thorpe and Jenkins, Ltd.

- Major points of the document were highlighted with emphasis on the fact that the District's strength is in identifying the range of possible factors involved in a disciplinary situation, tweaking behavior support plans as necessary, and involving parents at each step of the process.
- Ann Blickhahn, parent, asked about the steps a school would engage in if an outside placement were necessitated.
 - Discussion ensued with participation by administrators and psychologist- the IEP team, including parent, would only make that decision after exhausting all possible supports at the District; all decisions are made with the child's needs for education in mind; and typically, these decisions are mutual with the parent.

Discipline Policy/Red Book discussion focused on whether any modifications are needed at this time.

- There was discussion that the recent use of PBS district-wide supports that the focus is more on prevention now than the "remediation"
- A new form to record incidents of when bullying is alleged offers checks and balances. The students are more aware of what constitutes bullying.
- No tweaks are necessary at this time.

- It was reported by Ann, a bus driver, that the students have learned to tell her about possible incidents that need investigation; she has made it easy by offering a box into which notes can be shared.
- At Old Quarry, numbers for bullying incidents are similar to other schools (usually only a couple per year); however, it was noted that bullying may not be reported as frequently due to the stigma.
- No modifications to the Red Book were deemed necessary.

Meeting ended at 5:50 PM.