

**Jefferson Middle School Council Minutes**  
**January 26, 2010**

The Jefferson Middle School Council met in regular session on January 26, 2010, at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room.

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chairperson:	Tammy Kelly
Principals:	Howard McGlennen, Brandy Corbett
School Representatives:	Annette Beckwith, Carol Ann Knight, Lindy Pals
Business Representatives:	Jeff Blair
Parent Representatives:	Dwayne Ansley, Tammy Kelly, Sara Mixon, Cindy McMullan

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA:**

Tammy Kelly made a motion to accept the minutes from November 10, 2009, and Dwayne Ansley seconded the motion.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Parent Portal for Student Grades  
Progress Reports (Ms. Beckwith)**

JMS has moved from a 6-page progress report to a one page summary. At the bottom of this report is a link on where to go for more information. Parents have immediate access to all grades. Our office notes that we had no phone calls after our first Infinite Campus semester report card. Many parents mentioned the ease of one report and the ability to see more information on the portal (missing assignments, progress, etc.). Some parents are still having problems with seeing if something is “missing” or “late.” The office suggests checking if it’s actually labeled red and missing, rather than just blank. Check the date of the assignment as well. Another positive is that students enjoy tracking their progress too.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Introduce Dr. April Howard (Head of JMS and JHS Curriculum)**

Dr. Howard spent the past 10 years at Jackson County as a curriculum specialist and as a middle school principal. We are excited to have her on our team. She is available for questions concerning the curriculum or middle school concerns. Some of the concerns/trends she will be addressing: integrated mathematics approach, “move on when ready” trend, earning college credit earlier (increased interest in AP exams to cover first year of college), joint enrollment.

**New Furloughs Coming**

Gov. Purdue has asked for three more furlough days, and we are looking at our schedule. We have three teacher post-planning days, but we need at least two to complete our school year. We may need to take two student days out of the schedule. This would be

six total furlough days. We do not know what our schedule will be for next school year. Several school districts are already announcing shortened school years or 4 day weeks.

### **Technology Needs at JMS**

Ms. Lindy Pals reviewed the 2010 technology needs for JMS. Our biggest priority is to add new memory to all teacher machines over summer (\$50 per computer). Our next priority is maintaining our consumable budget (projector bulbs, toner cartridge, etc.). Our current request list will not put new technology in the classroom, and we feel that a more focused effort at fundraising is needed to help teachers stay current. We are exploring the idea of creating a JMS fundraising committee of teachers, parents, and community members.

### **Dates and Meetings coming up**

**February 25 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Information Night at High School at 7:00 p.m.**

**March 4 - Rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade registration 3:30 to 8:30 by appointment only.**  
Our current 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

### **March 9 - 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Night 6:30 p.m. in the JMS Gym**

JMS is partnering with the Academy to ease the transition for 5<sup>th</sup> graders to 6<sup>th</sup> grade. We are creating a video tour of the school for the 5<sup>th</sup> graders, meeting for a parent night (with principals, counselor, and teachers), 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive a letter from current 6<sup>th</sup> grader, and JMS is considering a date during preplanning to allow students come in early to get locker, schedule, etc. JMS is focused on doing something once a month to prepare students and help parents with the adjustment too.

### **March 11 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Advisement**

### **April 30 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dragon Day @ JHS 11:45 to 2:45**

8th graders will walk over to the high school for an orientation.

### **April 26-30 - CRCT Testing**

Any furlough days will be after CRCT.

### ***Other Concerns***

### **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:**

JMS School Council will meet again on, May 18, 2010 at 8:00 a.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Tammy Kelly made the motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Carol Ann Knight. The meeting was adjourned at 8:44 a.m.