

Jefferson Middle School Council Minutes
January 25, 2011

The Jefferson Middle School Council met in regular session on January 25, 2011, at 8:00 a.m. in the conference room.

SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Parent Representatives: Tammy Kelly, Chairperson
Timberlie McEver
Angie Thompson

Business Representatives: Jeff Blair, First Commerce Bank
Steve Perry, Beef 'O' Brady's

School Representatives: Brandy Corbett, Principal
Annette Beckwith, Assistant Principal
Lindy Pals, Media Specialist
Carol Ann Knight, Math Teacher
Donna McMullan, Association Superintendent
Ronnie Hopkins, School Board Chairman
Kim Navas, Financial Officer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND AGENDA:

Minutes from the August school council meeting were approved in the October 19, 2010 Tailgating meeting. No minutes were taken from this organizational fundraising meet.

NEW BUSINESS:

Presentation on the Upcoming Bond and SPLOST Referendum – Dr. John Jackson

Ronnie Hopkins, School Board chairman, presented the upcoming proposals for building projects for the upcoming Bond and ELOST vote. Project proposals include:

- New cafeteria at JES. Currently, the numbers push lunches as early as 10:30 and as late as 1:30.
- 4th wing building extension at JES to avoid trailers.
- New gym at JHS. Despite renovations and bleacher additions, the old gym cannot support our programs. The old gym would remain and provide added space for athletic practices.
- New classroom extension to replace old annex at JHS.
- New kitchen at JHS.

School council members would like an active role in supporting community awareness of the BOND and ELOST renewals. The ELOST and General Obligation Bond vote date is March 15, 2011.

Final Profits from the JMS Tailgate Party – Brandy Corbett

The JMS Tailgating Party earned a total of 5153.42. Spiritwear sales added an additional \$1687.38 for total earnings of \$6840.80. JMS is grateful for the help of school council members

and community businesses and individuals who supported this first Tailgating event. Since the event was so popular and we received so many wonderful comments, we would like to use the Tailgate Party as an annual event for students and families. We feel that this is not only a good fundraiser, but it is a way for teachers, students, and parents to make positive connections outside of the formal classroom.

Check-N-Connect Program – Annette Beckwith

JMS continues to look for ways to build a safety net for students falling behind. Many struggling students may not have a parent or guardian checking their work on a daily basis. Research shows one of the greatest factors in student success is to have one caring adult in the building. Special Education teachers are now providing a special morning “check-and-connect” from 7:30-7:50 each morning. Students in danger of failing two or more classes must attend instead of waiting in the gym before classes. This time period has already been a positive change for this group of students. Instead of staying in the highly-stimulating gym or halls, students relax in the mornings in low-lighted environments and have time to prepare themselves mentally for the day.

Implementation of the Academic Success Connection Class – Annette Beckwith

Our CRCT Prep program has had a huge impact on our struggling student population. To extend this program to more students, JMS is shifting from offering basic computer classes to creating another tier of CRCT Prep support. This will allow us to serve nearly 100 more students in the research-based program Classworks. Teachers will also provide study skills and motivation strategies.

“Dancing with the Stars” Fundraiser on Tuesday, February 15th at 7:00 in the JHS Performing Arts Center – Brandy Corbett

We would like to continue providing community-friendly fundraising activities. JMS is proposing the first annual “Dancing with the Stars” fundraiser at the Performing Arts Center at the high school. Teacher volunteers will create simple, fun dance routines with students (example: hula hoop routine). We will charge \$2.00 in advance and \$4.00 at the door. The JMS Chorus will also be performing. *NOTE: Fundraiser moved to March 22nd.*

School Improvement at JMS – Tammy Kelly

The JMS School Council would like to play an active role in school improvement at JMS. Three areas school council would like to support:

- Communication with School Stakeholders
- Survey of Current Technology
- Academic Opportunities for all Sub-Groups of Students

JMS School Council parent and business representatives are encouraged to talk to community members on these three topics to gather feedback. While we are already in the process of making improvements in these areas (laptop purchase, district/school technology audit, and accelerated pilots in library media center), community feedback is valuable in our planning.

Other Concerns

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:

JMS School Council will meet again on Tuesday, March 8, 2011 at 8:00 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

Tammy Kelly made the motion to adjourn the meeting, which was seconded by Lindy Pals. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 a.m.