

**Support Staff Council Meeting
Minutes
January 27, 2011**

The Support Staff Council met on January 27, 2011 at 9:00 AM in the Central Office conference room. Council members present were: Richard Harden, Kathy Willingham, Robin Sontag, Michelle Hollingsworth, Margaret Peel, Danny Blanton, Jim Sadler, Ron Bain, Madonna Keathley, and Teresa Moberly. Members absent: Kenny Smith, Don Richardson, Brenda Wheeler, Bobbye Ball, Amy Shearer (alternate), Mitzi Fugate (alternate), Chris Hager (alternate), Debra Lowry (alternate) and Diane Hall (alternate).

Purpose of Council

Mr. Harden explained that the Support Staff Council is a forum where staff representatives may discuss issues that are meaningful to all staff throughout the district. In addition, these meetings provide an opportunity to discuss issues that are at the State level and how those issues affect our school district.

Open Discussion

School Calendar:

Virginia Simpson, Director of Student Services, is the lead coordinator in developing the school calendar each year. Mrs. Simpson starts with a base calendar built off of the current year and adjustments are made from that point. Mrs. Simpson works closely with the Certified Council and together they develop a school calendar to recommend to the Board for approval. The Board has the final say on the school calendar.

Make up days:

As of today, we have missed 9 days due to weather. The 1/2 day is counted as a whole day of school.

Memorial Day is listed as a make-up day on the school calendar for this year. The Jessamine Board of Education has asked that we reconsider using Memorial Day as a make-up day. Also, we have missed more days beyond what was included on the 2010-2011 school calendar. We are in the process of revising our make-up day calendar for this year. The revised calendar must be approved by the Jessamine County Board of Education. Superintendent Young plans to take the new calendar to the board for approval at the next meeting on February 28. By then we should know how many total days we have to make up and we should also know if the General Assembly will make changes to state law that may impact make-up days. On March 1st we should be able to make the official announcement regarding Memorial Day and other calendar changes.

School cannot be in session on Election Day (though employees may work), Martin Luther King Day, and Labor Day due to statutory law.

It is possible that the testing dates could be altered for this year. In the future, testing will occur during the last 2 weeks of school, whenever that is.

The Kentucky General Assembly is considering changes to state requirements to assist school districts that have missed a high number of snow days this year. These options may include extending the school day to reach a minimum of 1,062 instructional hours or allowing disaster days or a combination of both. In any case, school employees must still work their required number of contract days.

One Call System:

Michelle Hollingsworth commented that the One Call System was a great investment for the district. The Council agreed it was very useful.

Did you know...

That \$500,000.00 was cut this year by the state, which affects the district's budget. Significant adjustments have to be made to our budget to accommodate the state budget cuts.

83% (approximately) of our budget is set aside for salaries and benefits for our employees and the remaining 17% is set aside for other items such as electric, heating, water, fuel for buses etc.

Support Staff Council Minutes:

Mr. Harden will ask Carrie McDonald to post the minutes to the website each month.

Adjourned at 10:00 AM.

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, February 24, 2011.**