

SESSION 2 REPORT – SCHOOL PLAN PRIORITIES

NAME OF SCHOOL: WEIGAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

DATE OF SESSION 2: 10/02/2012

NAME OF ORGANIZATION REPORTING: Pathways

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL REPORTING IN BEHALF OF THE ORGANIZATION: YVONNE ARREOLA

DATE THIS REPORT IS COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED: 10/04/2012

I. Student Performance: Where is the School Now?

In this session participants were concerned about the inconsistent teacher attendance. There is a concern on the high turnover rate of the teachers. They're here today gone tomorrow and this contributes to the students falling behind. Parents would like to see Teachers that are capable of helping the students achieve higher learning in math skills and especially in English. Narrative from the small group discussions and presentations was as follows:

- One parent commented how her child was falling behind because her teacher had been changed twice in one year.
- The low scores are a reflection of the much needed special attention in English language.
- Reclassification is most important in order to advance in their overall education

II. School Plan Priorities Brainstorm

Every small group working on this exercise shared how Tutoring was a main priority in areas such as math and English.

Another issue was Teacher attendance. The attendance was affecting the progress of the students. Parents want to see teachers showing more support to students that are falling behind. Parents also expressed how they want to feel more involved. Other priorities were:

- There needs to be better staff attendance so parents can keep in touch with the teachers
- We need to get more involved by showing support and motivating our kids
- We would like tutoring programs so our kids can get better grades
- Parents want to have more communication with the teachers, and be involved in more activities
- The school needs a daily nurse on campus to attend to the children
- Extra care for students with special needs
- Clases de computación para los niños y los padres (Computer classes for children and parents)
- Talleres para padres como matematicas, y ingles (Workshops for parents such as math and English)

III. School Priorities that Lead to a High Performing Community of Learning

During the brainstorm session there were a few issues that were addressed as "most important". Each table was asked to select the issue that their table agreed to be the most important. The issues were selected as follows; Student Mentoring, Parent Involvement, Student and Staff Attendance, and Class size Reduction. When participants elaborated on their choices they commented as follows:



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- a. More teachers for our students, a smaller class environment will help teachers focus better on the students that are falling behind.
- b. Teachers need to be more consistent in their attendance in order to assure the proper attention to the students
- c. We want to be more involved with our kids and teacher in order to be aware of what we can do to help.



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Session 2 Report – Dialogues with Planning Teams

NAME OF SCHOOL: Weigand Elementary

DATE OF SESSION 2: 10/02/2012

NAME OF ORGANIZATION: Pathways

NAME OF INDIVIDUAL REPORTING IN BEHALF OF THE ORGANIZATION: YVONNE ARREOLA

DATE THIS REPORT IS COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED: 10/05/2012

There was one planning team for this meeting. It consisted of Principal Corbin and math instructor Mr. Quintanilla.

- **Parents** had a concern with the lack of tutoring in the school. **Principal Corbin** addressed the tutoring issue. She explained how there are no funds at the time to have a tutoring program.
- **Parents** concerned that teachers are being changed too often. **Principal Corbin** explained how teachers were leaving due to cutbacks and others due to personal reasons. She asked the parents to let her know if a teacher wasn't being proficient
- **Parents** were asking why they couldn't have better teachers. **Principal Corbin** added how she was focused on bettering all the teachers she had. At this point she introduced Mr. Quintanilla who addressed how they would begin by bettering their math instructors.

Mr. Quintanilla explained how they were planning on making their existing math staff more proficient. They will begin with 3rd - 5th grade levels. Mr. Quintanilla will be the teacher assigned to a class. He will be teaching that math class for two weeks while the existing instructor observes and takes notes on his techniques. After two weeks Mr. Quintanilla will come into the class to observe the instructor and make sure the changes are being applied. At this point Mr. Quintanilla will move on to another class and execute the same process. Once Mr. Quintanilla was through explaining the new process to better their math staff the parents replied by saying they were supportive the new program and they were hopeful that this implementation would work.

- **Parents** were still concerned about the proficiency levels in English and wondered how that would be addressed. **Principal Corbin** addressed the issue by explaining how they were creating a 45 minute block specifically for students that were having difficulties in English.
- **Participants** brought up the issue of campus cleanliness. **Principal Corbin** addressed how she has a group of parents volunteering to do a campus clean up every other Saturday of each month.

Principal Corbin ended the meeting by thanking the parents that were involved with her and the school cleaning program. She also said she was working very hard to get the school some more funding to continue the improvements.