TOPS School Site Council Minutes for Wednesday, September 10, 2008
Meeting: 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.   TOPS Library

Present:  Lori Eickelberg, Steve Haines, Tamara Kincaid, Leslie Nilan, Clara Scott,, Glen Tamura, Susan Welch, Betsy Wells, Jeanne Kuban, Barbara Rockey

Approval of Minutes
There was not a quorum.  The minutes will be sent out and can be approved at the retreat.

Introductions –
Staff and parent members introduced themselves.

Election of Officers
There was not a quorum, so the officers will be elected at the retreat.  The slate of officers is:
- Susan Welch: Chair
- Tamara Kincaid: Vice Chair
- Cliff Shettler: Treasurer
- Betsy Wells: Secretary

Budget Report
There was no budget report

Principal’s Report
Ms. Scott welcomed the new additions to the TOPS staff:
- Assistant Principal, Jeanne Kuban
- Peak Teacher, Michael Adams
- Night Custodian, Kieu Bui (has a child in Sarah Marks’ class)
- 5th Grade Teacher, Elizabeth Reiter
- Math Specialist for K-5, Debbie Bermet
- Writing Specialist (Middle School), Jacque Ensign
- Middle School Resource Specialist, James Burger

Bus schedules have been off to a late and confusing start.  The bus drivers actually do a test run before the year begins, but then their routes are revised.  Now the buses are leaving school on a better schedule but still not perfect.  A site supervisor has been at the school trying to fix problems.  Middle School kids have been helping younger kids navigate the bus issues.  Problems are being fixed in stages.  TOPS will have eight writers published in this years ‘Writers In The Schools” WITS Anthology, *Dive Down into the Loud*. The book launch will be held at 7 pm in the Bertha Knight Landes room at Seattle City Hall (600 Fourth Avenue) on Wednesday, September 24. WITS is funded by Friends of TOPS. The writers who will have their work published this year are: Tuuli Snow, Anna Duncan, Kwame Salmi-Adubofour, Joey Hardy, Kellen Lambert-Vail, Abby Takahashi, Eliana Schwartz, and Andy Johnston.

The fifth graders will have a community-building activity for the on Friday.

Volunteer Report
There was no volunteer report

Coalition for Social Justice (CSJ) – Susan Welch
This year there was a mentoring program for families new to TOPS. Mentors were assigned to call a new family and invite them to the new parent orientation. For families who received calls, this was
a very positive experience. Some families did not hear from mentors. The challenge for the program is that mentors had a short time from receiving their assignments to the time of orientation, during a time of year when many families are away. There is a need to organize the mentors at the end of the prior year and to write up process so it can be repeated and improved. School staff provided information about classroom efforts to integrate new students into the school.

CSJ planning an ice cream social October 4, 1-4, a Saturday. This will include an orientation to various organizations, etc. in the school.

**Site Council Retreat**
- Date and time: Saturday, September 20, 9-12 in the TOPS library
- The main agenda will be to talk about goals for the year
- Susan will email all about bringing a treat to share