

February 21, 2007

OFFICIAL SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING FEBRUARY 21, 2007

I. CALL TO ORDER

The February 21, 2007 School Board Meeting was called to order by (Name Removed), Vice-Chair. The meeting began at 1803 hours in the CLDS Board Room. School Board members in attendance were: (Names Removed)

II. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS

A. Marine Corps JROTC Program

(Name Removed) (USMCR) and (Name Removed) (USMCR) serve as the Instructors for the Marine Corps JROTC Program at Lejeune High School. A video presentation provided an overview of the program's goals and objectives and gave a highlight of the concepts which students are introduced to during their first year. They include: leadership, patriotism/citizenship, health, study skills, uniforms, clothing, equipment and personal appearance; military history, community service, and vocabulary development. A more extensive development of these skills as well as planning for college and military careers are carried over in Levels II, III, and IV of the JROTC Program.

(Name Removed), who is a second year JROTC student, stated that he joined the program in hopes for a military career in Marine Corps aviation. He feels his participation in drill, rifle, and physical fitness competitions as well as community service and other areas of the program have prepared him well.

(Name Removed), also a second year-student, is confident that the program has provided him with the necessary skills for taking on a leadership position as well as the ability to address everyday issues and work possible solutions.

As an active member in the JROTC Program for 1 ½ years, (Name Removed) enjoyed the opportunity to visit the Recruiting Station in Parris Island, SC. She too is

particularly fond of the drills and appreciates the fact that the program has encouraged her tremendously to be more open-minded in daily decisions.

Currently, 20% of the student body is enrolled in MCJROTC Program. This school year the students have already exceeded 1,000 hours in community service. (Name Removed) was pleased to announce that the LHS MCJROTC Program was named a *Naval Honor School for 2006* making it the fourth year in a row at receiving this distinguished award. To receive this recognition, a formal board reviews the school's application based on the following areas: annual inspection, unit participation, cadet citizenship, scholastic achievement, and extra-curricular events. A school must be awarded a total of 95 or more points; and if selected, the Naval Academy, West Point and Air Force Academies will set aside 4 to 5 quotas for senior students who, if they meet the admissions requirements, can be appointed going through the honor school recognition.

Words of commendation were extended to (Name Removed) and (Name Removed) for their outstanding leadership in mastering a first-class MCJROTC Program. Mr. Osgood, LHS Principal, recognized JROTC students as role models who are well-disciplined and represents the school with highest regards during their participation in school events such as pep rallies, assemblies, and other school-wide activities. Ms. Thomas was appreciative of the instructors and cadets as they are often called upon to support special events. (Name Removed) agreed that representatives of the JROTC Program are a huge addition to ground breaking ceremonies and facility dedications as they are eager to do what is needed and do so with pride.

On behalf of the CLDS School Board, (Name Removed) thanked the program instructors and cadets for making the program a huge success.

B. Multi-Age Program

Dr. Jan Kinney, Principal of Johnson Primary School, introduced teacher presenters, (Names Removed), and thanked other teacher and parent representatives of Johnson Primary for their attendance. As a PreK-2 school, Johnson Primary has two configurations of multi-age classrooms: K-1 and 1-2. The multi-age program has grown from 13 classrooms to 21 classrooms this school year. In addition, Johnson Primary houses 8 single-grade classrooms. The multi-age classroom is a very popular program with students, parents and teachers.

(Name Removed) explained that one of the benefits of multi-age is the fact that students are with you for more than one year. Students, parents, and teachers feel a sense of security. As the teacher, you have the luxury of continually assessing a student's growth for several years. The parent involvement is wonderful as well. Students quote, "It is fun working with different ages. You get to be with your friends and teachers for two years. As an older student, you feel good about helping the younger students."

According to (Name Removed), in a multi-age setting you cannot tell the difference in grade levels. Teachers and students become a family unit. The students are motivated to learn and it makes for a nurturing learning environment. But at the same time, materials and activities are designed to meet the students' individualized needs using the curricular standards. Classroom management allows students the time to work independently as well in group settings. (Name Removed) shared that in a multi-age classroom children are expected and encouraged to learn at different rates and levels. This approach reduces the pressure on young learners and makes academic failure less likely. Students are accepted and supported at their current level of development making discipline problems and negative attitudes less prevalent. In fostering a cooperative learning environment, older students gain self-esteem while younger students look up to their role models. As children grow and change rapidly and unevenly, tracking a student's success is an important part of the program. (Name Removed) concurs that a multi-age classroom setting positively influences students socially, emotionally, and academically. Multi-age has no negative effect on student achievement. Students gain good work habits, positive peer relationships, independence, and a sense of continuity.

(Name Removed) inquired about what the student-teacher ratio looked like in a multi-age setting. Dr. Kinney responded, "For example, in a regular kindergarten classroom, the student-teacher ratio is 25/1 with a full-time aide; for grades 1 and 2, the ratio is 18/1. In a multi-age setting, the ratio is 21-22/1 with a half-time aide."

(Name Removed), who has a child in the multi-age classroom, spoke very highly of the program as the older children have helped her child with social interactions. Last year, her daughter entered the program very shy and below grade level. Now in her second year, she is very out-going and exceeds academically. The students feel no pressure of being around a mixed-age group. The teacher ensures that her daughter knows the standards as students are met where they are. Another highlight of the program evolves around when students enter the multi-age classroom during their second year. They are in a routine by the first week because they know the teacher as well as the students. (Name Removed) is convinced that students enjoy the stability that multi-age brings.

(Name Removed) indicated that her family moved on base because of their interest in the multi-age program. She likes the program where it gives a student the opportunity to move on if they have mastered a particular concept. The experience of students working independently and at their level/age is beneficial. In addition, students in multi-age are able to pick up from where they left off the previous school year.

(Name Removed) had an interest in knowing the highest grade level that multi-age is taught. At Tarawa Terrace 2 and DeLalio Elementary Schools, a 3/4 configuration is offered. Ms. Thomas reported that the multi-age program has been in existence at Camp Lejeune for approximately 15 years. Not only does the program benefit students and families but teachers strengthen as they work and plan together and support each

other.

(Name Removed) asked how students are placed in multi-age. At Johnson Primary, a base group is randomly developed. Dr. Kinney then schedules a meeting to explain the program to the parents. While multi-age provides a different learning environment, both the multi-age and regular education classrooms are sound programs.

(Name Removed) questioned if there were additional teaching requirements for teachers to teach multi-age. Dr. Kinney responded that teachers had no further requirements.

Members of the School Board acknowledged Dr. Kinney, teachers and parents for a very informative presentation on multi-age.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Menactra Update

Dr. Hager and Ms. Thomas had the opportunity to visit the Menactra Clinic that is being offered at Lejeune High School during 21-22 February. At this time, 140 parental permissions have been received and others are expected to come in during this two-day clinical session. If vaccinations are left over, the medical staff will consider offering a clinic for middle school students. (Name Removed) received praise as she worked closely with Naval Hospital personnel to provide a very well organized clinic for the high school students. In addition, she prepared a power point presentation for students to view to let them know what to expect at the clinic.

B. Budget Update

Dr. Hager reported that while funds continue to be tight, our schools are maintaining overall. With the release of sustainment dollars from the MILCON budget, this has given us some flexibility to perform minor school repairs.

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Read Across America Week

CLDS will celebrate 'Read Across America' Week during 26 February -2 March. School Board members interested in reading to our students were asked to see (Name Removed) to schedule a date and time.

B. North Central Association (NCA) Visit

An accreditation team, assigned by the North Central Association, will conduct two-day visits at Johnson Primary, Bitz Intermediate, and Tarawa Terrace 1 Primary

Schools during the weeks of Mar 6-13, 2007.

C. Kids-n-Deployment Workshops

Personnel and families of Camp Lejeune Schools plan to attend deployment workshops that are being sponsored by the Base. Several workshops are scheduled as follows: February 23, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., Midway Park Chapel and March 23, 2007 at 6:00 p.m., Marston Pavilion. Recently, (Name Removed) attended one of the workshops and spoke highly of the information she received. She strongly encouraged others to attend.

D. Early Release Days

Pre-K-8 students will dismiss early during March 14-15, 2007 in order for these schools to conduct parent conferences. Brewster Middle School will dismiss at 12:00; all elementary schools will dismiss at 1245.

E. Pennies for Patients

As a winter service project, the PTA of Bitz Intermediate School conducted a 'Pennies for Patients' penny collection drive where the students collected approximately \$1,700 for the North Carolina Chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. A celebration assembly was held to thank the kids for their efforts and generosity.

F. Beautification Project

As a campus beautification project for Bitz Intermediate, the PTA, Bitz staff, and 2d Assault Amphibian Battalion (the school's adopt-a-school unit) have purchased 15 trees in honor of Camp Lejeune's fallen Marines in Iraqi Freedom. In the future, the school plans to place a memorial garden in front of the school with a paved walkway to hold the names of the fallen. A plaque will also be mounted inside the school. School Board members were encouraged to visit the school to give the project a look.

V. AGENDA BUILDING

After discussion, the School Board requested a presentation on the following programs at their March meeting:

- Deployment Support Programs
- READ 180 Program

Members were reminded that other suggestions for the agenda could be forwarded to the Chair and Ms. Thomas.

VI. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

The next regular scheduled meeting is planned for March 21, 2007 beginning at

1800 hours. A dinner session will begin at 1730 hours. The Board will meet in the CSO Board Room.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

(Name Removed) adjourned the meeting at 1900 hours.

//original signed//
(Name Removed)
Vice-Chair, CLDS School Board

Attachments:
As stated

cc: Director, DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba