



Domestic Dependents
Elementary & Secondary Schools

North Carolina District - DDESS
Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools
Office of the Superintendent
855 Stone Street
Camp Lejeune, NC 28547



**OFFICIAL SCHOOL BOARD MINUTES
CAMP LEJEUNE DEPENDENTS SCHOOLS
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 19, 2008**

I. CALL TO ORDER

(Name removed), Chairperson of the CLDS School Board, called the meeting to order at 1010 hours in the CSO Board Room. Members in attendance were: (Name removed). The following members were absent: (Name removed). Command representative, (Name removed), Base School Liaison Officer was present.

Also in attendance were: Ms. Elizabeth Thomas, Assistant Superintendent for NC DDESS-Camp Lejeune Dependents Schools; (Name removed), CLDS Instructional Systems Specialists; Ms. Carol Perry, Ms. Linda Hawes, Ms. Leigh Ann Kapiko, and Ms. Cassandra White, CLDS Principals; and (Name removed), Secretary.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES, FINANCIAL REPORT AND STUDENT ACTIVITY FUND EXPENDITURES

(Name removed) made a motion to approve the minutes of October 22, 2008, seconded by (Name removed). The minutes were unanimously approved by the Board as presented. **(Tab J)**

III. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS

A. (Name removed), Site Director for the FOCUS Project provided a comprehensive power point presentation as well as printed handouts. FOCUS is the acronym for "Families Overcoming Under Stress", a resiliency training and Mental Health Task Force program for active duty families. The program also includes Prevention and Child Services programs. The Project managers are located in the Tarawa Terrace Shopping Center, but plan to move in January 2009 to the Midway Park Shopping Center.

The project takes into account the deployment stress – and multiple deployment stress – and combat stress felt by some families. (Name removed) pointed out that the Commandant of the Marine Corps has recognized the impact of these stressors on the military member and his family and supports these initiatives.

There are four (4) criteria for participating in the FOCUS project: child or children aged four to eighteen years; at least one parent or caregiver participates; there is a history of deployment; and availability of the member or parent to participate.

(Name removed) asked (Name removed) if there was a large group program for adolescents in place or planned. (Name removed) responded that FOCUS was working on implementing such a program.

(Name removed) handed out a packet of information, along with their websites, www.focusproject.org and info@focusproject.org. **(Tab U)**

B. (Name removed), Base Schools Liaison Officer presented a brief overview of resources available on the www.mccslejeune.com/schools website. These include:

- 1) Monthly Newsletters are sent via the Wide Area Network (WAN) to all service members at their military address. (Name removed) *asked if there was some way to have them sent to "home" email addresses instead.* (Name removed) responded that this is not possible and that spouses/family members can go to the website to review the monthly newsletters.
- 2) The Student Online Achievement Resources (SOARathome.com) weblink for parents. Students take an assessment aligned to state standards, and SOAR directs them to individualized tutorials to improve skills where needed. Parents can monitor their children's progress from anywhere and are provided with resource materials.
- 3) Live Homework Help for military families with students in Preschool through grade 12. There is also a Math tutor available for subjects such as Trigonometry and Calculus.
- 4) Military One Source link for additional information for active duty families.
- 5) (Name removed) provided a handout regarding the appropriate pronunciation of Lejeune (LeJERN). The handout included background information of the base's namesake, John A. Lejeune. **(Tab U)**

(Name removed) *asked if the links for the (above) websites were on the (Name removed) (SLO for MCAS) website.* (Name removed) responded that (Name removed) does not yet have a website, but would eventually and it would be a clone of the Base SLO site.

C. Terra Nova Results - (Name removed), Instructional Systems Specialist (Name removed) presented a compilation of the Terra Nova National Percentile Scores from Spring 2005 through 2008. The handout included an explanation of the data. The first number in the 'year' columns represent (from left to right) School; DDESS; DoDEA percentiles. Are the numbers showing specific trends? (Name removed) pointed out that corrections to the Grade 11, 2008 Science scores were (L to R) School: 67; DDESS: 63; DoDEA: 69. The data is also available on the DDESS Website. (Name removed) pointed out that the North Carolina End of Grade Assessments are not comparable with National Percentile TN data. For the last 6 or 7 years, we have used the TN 2nd Edition. All DoDEA schools will use the newly normed Terra Nova 3rd Edition beginning school year 2008-2009. (Name removed) reminded the board that grades K through 2 are not assessed with the Terra Nova. There were no questions or comments from the board. **(Tab XYZ)**

D. Motivation: Early Release during Extended Learning Time – LHS. Staff and School Improvement Committee members (W. Chevis, (Names removed))

A handout was distributed with the Goal Statements of the School Improvement Plan (**Tab V**). Some staff members have developed a 'pilot' program to be incorporated in the Extended Learning (EL) period. Teachers plan activities to motivate students and celebrate their successes. Goals of the pilot are Problem Solving (Nonacademic); Motivation; Academic Success Groups. The program uses an Advisor/Advisee model and students have named themselves the Extreme Team. Students expressed their excitement and actively strive for academic success and participation in special activities to celebrate those successes. Teachers reported the following activities: at the end of the 1st quarter, students with all As and Bs participated in an Ice Cream Social during Extended Learning; 2nd quarter, students with all As were treated to a Pizza & Karaoke Party; 3rd quarter averages would be compared to 2nd quarter averages and successes will be recognized with prizes. Attendance will be the focus for 4th quarter recognition (to be determined). Teachers have also had guest speakers come in to talk with students about the long term benefits of completing their education. These have included a representative from Coastal Carolina Community College who spoke of the lifelong income advantages of obtaining a degree; a Master Chief (30-year veteran) who spoke about how persistence pays off; and (Name removed) from the FOCUS program has also spoken to students. There is also a special bulletin board in the school that is used exclusively for EL Principal's List and A/B Honor Roll, so that students may also be recognized among their peers.

The committee is asking for consideration of early release for students, during Extended Learning, as an additional motivator. Students whose grades were all As and Bs would be dismissed at 2:10 vice 2:35, Tuesdays through Friday. So far, at the time of progress reports, 73 students would qualify with an anticipated 80 students by progress report time. The committee has approached the PTO, whose recommendation was that one day of early release rather than 4 days would be more practical.

Concerns from the Board were raised about transportation, especially for students who normally ride the bus, walking students and whether students who were released early would be allowed to return to school.

Administrators responded that walking students could walk; students who ride buses would have to have parents provide transportation. Further, students released early would not be allowed back on campus to ride the bus home.

Another issue was whether monitoring students' grades for continued success would be done at interim reports or at the end of the quarter? Interim reports would be reviewed for continued early dismissal.

The committee is also considering a 'Gold Card' pass for qualifying students to access a variety of in-school activities and resources, such as use of the gym, a commons area social time and use of electronics, using the Media Center and computer lab.

Overall, consideration of early release is still a work in progress. The committee was asked to provide more data to the Board before further consideration. The High School agreed to compile data and will report their findings to the school community via a LHS Town Meeting, as well as sharing with parents via newsletter, teachers and the Board.

Ms. Thomas and (Name removed) thanked the committee for appearing before the Board.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Projected Growth for CLDS

There was no new information.

- The 35% design meeting for the new elementary school is slated for December 2 and 3.
- The gym addition for Delalio Elementary School is on schedule with a completion date of July 2009.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. There was no new business.

VI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. One Call Now – notification was received that the One Call Now program had encountered a glitch with SMS (student database management system) and could not be deployed. The Area Service Center and program designers are working on the problem.
- B. Lunch Prepay – (Name removed) said that she had used the program and was delighted in an easy and successful transaction for her son. She commented that when adding to the lunch account, the “new” balance did not immediately show up. ((Name removed) says it takes a little while for the system to be able to show that information) There was some discussion as to how to obtain a child’s “Lunch Number”. The number may be obtained from the school office or the School Food Services Office at 450-1732.
- C. Parent Portal – (Name removed) has logged in and thought it was an excellent way to monitor student academic activity. The High School has added the link to their website, included the information in the newsletter and circulated a handout.
- D. DoDEA Community Strategic Plan Booklets – each Board Member received the new CSP booklet. Page 29 of the booklet has had some revisions since printing. A printed sheet was inserted in the booklet. Booklets have been made available to each school and the CSO. Parent copies will be available at a later date and the CSP may be viewed on the DoDEA Website.
- E. American Education Week – November 16-21
- F. MilCon Project, TT1 and TT2 schools – the project to add new buildings to the existing Tarawa Terrace 2 school has been approved. Design work should begin January, 2010; Contract should be awarded February, 2011; construction start in April, 2011 and construction completion date is tentative in May, 2013. The new buildings should replace the Tarawa Terrace I school.

- G. Lejeune Lodging Students Event Planners handout – Students in Lodging classes at LHS are also learning about “Event Planning”. Anyone interested in having the students assist with party and menu planning may contact (Name removed) at 451-2451 to set up a consultation.
- H. Utilization of Education Aides - (Name removed) addressed the use of Education Aides as bus monitors in the mornings and afternoons. She explained that this has been in place for 15years, and was implemented to support students whose Individualized Education Plan (IEP) required transportation. The morning and afternoon bus monitor duty is shared by education aides across the system. While the monitors are away from school, support is still maintained in the school as required by Special Education guidelines. The bus schedule is created each semester and distributed well in advance to all Principals and Ed. Aides. The morning and afternoon assignments are staggered so that the same person does not ride both shifts – and is only scheduled for one week every 13 weeks. In addition, no two aides from the same team are scheduled at the same time.

Mrs. Thomas asked (Name removed) if there was more impact at Brewster Middle School because they have fewer aides. (Name removed) responded that the SIS hours are cut up into smaller chunks in order to provide more support where/when it was most critical to maximize support for students.

Mr. Vasquez asked if there were bus monitors overseas or were they parents.

Mrs. Thomas pointed out that with the cut in hours for Ed Aides (from 40/week to 37.5/week), the aides are only in school when students are there. The aides arrive and depart the same time as the students, so as to have little impact on students at school. Mrs. Thomas offered to respond to any later questions by email. (Name removed) thanked (Name removed) and Ms. Thomas for the information provided and expressed satisfaction with the update.

- I. Customer Satisfaction Survey - Mrs. Thomas invited the board to be sure to log on to www.dodea.edu to participate in the Customer Satisfaction Survey. She encouraged all to tell their friends and neighbors to do the same. CLDS would like as many parents as possible to take the survey so that we have a good representation of our schools. Parents are the ones who can validate what we are doing for children. Schools have a computer available for survey participation by those parents who do not have one available in the home. And, by the way, check out our new sign out front.

VII. AGENDA BUILDING

The following presentations/items were confirmed for the January 21, 2009 meeting:

- Presentation of the overnight field trip, “Cruisin’ Carolina” Study Trip 2009 by Brewster Middle School
- EL / Early Dismissal follow up.
- PDA/Handholding policy follow up
- Presentation of new resources by (Name removed), School Liaison Officer for MCB

VIII. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

(Name removed) made a motion to cancel the December 2008 meeting, due to the level of activity this month; seconded by Mrs. Fuquea. The Board unanimously approved the motion.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in the CSO Board Room. The members will meet in an executive session beginning at 0930. *(Subsequently cancelled due to schools closure for snow)*

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 1205 hours.

X. SCHOOL BOARD ITEMS RECEIVING APPROVAL

The following items were presented to the members requesting their review and recommendations.

A. Financial Report of October 2008 – After a review, the members recommended approval of the October 2008 Financial Report. The subject report was unanimously approved. (Tab J)

B. Student Activity Fund Expenditures:

There were no expenditures presented for action.

(Name removed)
Chair, CLDS School Board

cc: Director, DDESS/DoDDS-Cuba