

West Side School

School Improvement Team

September 26, 2013

Minutes

SIT Members

Staff: Kurt Simon, Mary Baratta, Jane DeRosa, Jim Farmer, and Leah Martin

Parents: Nicole Boutis, Helen Daly, Dana Ginobi, and Mariel Naccarato

Goal: *Fostering social and emotional strengths – building climate*

Building on the First Grade Orientation Foundation

- Mentors in 5th grade work with 1st graders in the
- Match 5th graders with 2nd graders in the spring with a follow-up in the fall
- During WSS visit students could meet 5th graders
- 10 – 15 minute reading time during 1st grade orientation tour?
- Keep tour to smaller groups
- Realistic logistics – need to plan the morning as changes will be taking place
- Celebration the following fall similar to summer reading celebration
- End of Year Picture Book
- Folder, pencil, new maps added to orientation folders

Drama Club for 4th Graders

- Possibly begin after school in the winter

Teaching our Younger Learners to be Mentors

- 3rd grade recess helpers
- Tips From 2nd graders added to 1st grade orientation folders
- Lunch/Recess – record 2nd graders in newsroom with their tips for going to WSS
- Show video to parents at Parent Orientation in the spring
- Switch lunch/recess – Start with Signup – touch base w/ Ms. Ryan, Ms. Santoro, Ms. Schaul and Ms. Latham
- Let them choose – students in 3rd grade could work with 2nd graders during their lunch time
- Great for girls to meet with 2nd grade girls
- Acknowledgement from peers