**New Highland Elementary**

**Site Based Decision Making Council Meeting**

**September 13, 2012**

The New Highland Site Based Decision Making Council met on Thursday, September 13, 2012, at 2:35 p.m. in Ms. Foster’s classroom at New Highland Elementary School.

**Members present included:**  Monica O’Donnell, Mary Foster, Karen Drake, Marina Jacobs and Mark Thomas.

**Members absent:** Elisabeth Scott

**Agenda:** Mr. Thomas reviewed the agenda with the council and recognized the visitors.

**Visitors:** Emily-Ann King, Bethany Ogburn, April Cabaniss, Nikki Robinson

**Minutes Review:** The minutes of the monthly meeting in August were reviewed. Karen Drake made a motion to accept the minutes and Monica O’Donnell seconded it with an amendment being made to the amount of the Chrysler Test Drive. It will be changed from $2000.00 to $2100.00.

**Old Business:**

No items were addressed.

**New Business:**

**Media Center:** The council discussed upgrading and improving several procedures that are being used in the Media Center. Check in/out procedures will be looked at to help improve the accuracy of the books each student is checking in or out, and for students to be able to check out books that are outside of their Accelerated Reader range. The council agreed that a committee, made up of one teacher from each grade level, be started to look at restructuring the Media Center. A motion was made by Mary Foster to start the Media Center Committee and seconded by Karen Drake.

**Playground:** A repair proposal on the bigger playground was presented to the council. Building and supplies for the playgrounds, including repairs, come through PTA. The repair proposal will be shown Friday night at the PTA meeting if new officers are elected at that time.

**Technology Funds:** A possible amendment will be made to KETS budget which was presented in March. The council will do more research on funds used on several programs including Accelerated Reader and STARR Math before an amendment is made to use the money elsewhere in the technology program.

**School Time:** Teachers are required to put in a 7.5 hour day and their day starts at 7:10 a.m. It has been mentioned that this time may need to be a little before 7:10 a.m. There will be more information on this at a later date.

**Student Achievement/Success Story:** This month we would like to highlight two new organizations here at New Highland. “Girls United” consists of twenty-three girls under the direction of Stephanie Gray. The purpose of this organization is to help build self-esteem and confidence. These girls plan on tutoring at the school as well as volunteering their time at a nursing home. Each month they will also plan a fun time for their group. This month they have taken a trip to Empire Beauty School for a class on personal hygiene and received a free manicure.

New Highland Elementary has a new academic/technology team called First Lego League. It will be under the direction of Mr. Bobby Thompson and Mrs. Kim Sweet. This team will be challenged to use a robot and their imagination to help solve real-world problems while competing with other schools. Their first meeting is Thursday, September 13.

**Finance:** The finance report for August was reviewed at this meeting. Mary Foster made a motion to accept the finance report and Monica O’Donnell seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 3:34 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Monica Oliver