**New Highland Elementary**

**Site Based Decision Making Council Meeting**

**October 11, 2012**

The New Highland Site Based Decision Making Council met on Thursday, October 11, 2012, at 2:40 p.m. in Karen Drake’s classroom at New Highland Elementary School.

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

**Visitors:** Chalis Packer, Terrie Morgan, Jenny Stiles, Amanda White, Brittany LaFollette, Jackie Saujon, and Eric Burrell.

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

**Minutes Review:** The minutes of the monthly meeting in September were reviewed. Monica O’Donnell made a motion to accept the minutes and Elisabeth Scott seconded it. The revised minutes of the monthly meeting in August were reviewed. Monica O’Donnell made a motion to accept the minutes and Karen Drake seconded it.

**Old Business:**

No items were addressed.

**New Business:**

**Program Review:** Mrs. Packer brought before the council new information that pertains to Program Review. This year, homeroom teachers must implement Arts & Humanities, Writing, and Practical Living into their lesson plans. Most teachers are already incorporating these subjects into their daily plans and will be showing documentation that they are teaching the required items. This year will be used to get on track, with kindergarten thru third grade being the main focal point. Accountability will start next school year.

**PBIS:** Positive Behavior Intervention System is a new technique that is now mandated by the district that rewards with positive actions in relation to behavioral situations and must be used by all schools of the district and for all students. New Highland has already been implementing such a technique and seeing positive results.

 **Report Cards:** Mrs. Morgan shared with the council that the reports cards have been revised after input from parents showed many of them disliked the current card. The report card will be shorter with more teacher comments and the grading rubric has also been changed. She also shared the new report card envelopes with the council.

**Student Achievement/Success Stories:** As a pre-fall break event, the staff celebrated student effort and success with a 5-on-5 half court double-elimination basketball tournament for fourth and fifth grade students on September 28. Sixteen teams and eighty students participated as players and twenty-two games were conducted. Emphasis for competition was placed on social interaction, responsibility, fun, and fair play. Students built their own rosters, assigned their own captains, registered their squad within a three day time limit, and when in play their behavior was exemplary. In a cumulating event, the tournament winners and runners up combined as one team and played a rousing game against a select staff team that had the school gym rocking with cheers and chants. Students and staff expressed a high desire to repeat the experience next year.

**Finance:** The finance report for September was reviewed at this meeting. Karen Drake made a motion to accept the finance report and Mary Foster seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Monica Oliver