

**Teacher Representatives:**

	Present:			Present:	
Clearview	X	Jonette Tschida	Apollo	X	Chris Ann Johnson
Discovery	X	Marsha Elg	Tech	X	Brenda Siers
Kennedy	X	Sandy Mergen	North	X	Bryon Anderson
Lincoln		Linda Cooper	South	X	Jane Barth
Madison	X	Beth Lovdahl	ALC- Wilson	X	Kathy Lyerly
Oak Hill	X	Melissa Casey	ALC – West	X	Dan Hugo
Talahi	X	Carla Reeck	SCCH	X	Bonnie Schwinghammer
Westwood	X	Melissa Gray	Roosevelt Early Educ.	X	Vicki Klein-Ferkinhoff

**Other Representatives:**

	Present:		Present:	
Elementary	X	Joni Olson		Diane Moeller
Middle Level		Pat Welter		
High School	X	Roger Ziemann		
Board	X	Bruce Mohs		Penny Zook
Media	X	Marj Hawkins		Sue Doering
Spec Ed	X	Alicia Jepsen		
Curriculum	X	Bernice Berns		Sherry Nielsen

Guests: Karen Hommerding

**1. Welcome and Call to Order**

Bernie welcomed the group and thanked them for their work during the past year. This is the last meeting of the school year.

**2. Vertical Teaming (Karen Hommerding)**

The Vertical Teaming initiative originally started with grade 6-12 courses. The thought was that this process would improve the rigor, relevance and academic achievement of our students. Karen Hommerding reviewed a packet of information including the definition of vertical teaming and what each of the teams have done thus far. We are doing work in PK-12. Teachers are finding that other teachers are not using the same vocabulary when describing what is being taught. We have to provide opportunities for all students to learn and be successful as well as allowing our low income or lower functioning students opportunities to take advanced courses. Teachers are being paid using Title IIA Staff Development funds to get the vertical teaming training and they come back and teach our other staff. We can only use these monies for staff to attend conferences if they develop an action plan and after attending the conference come back to the district to train other teachers. Science has not been involved in vertical teaming to the extent the other courses have been and we need to change the grade levels where we teach certain courses. Diane Moeller indicated that Kennedy staff used vertical teaming concepts to focus on mathematics. It really helped teachers to realize what they are teaching from one year to the next and to be sure that the concepts have been taught at the appropriate grade levels. Next year's staff development activities would allocate some time during workshop week, and then again in November and January for vertical teaming.

Language Arts – she had a packet of what they have done this year. The Math vertical team looked at grade levels and what skills they wanted to have for the in and out of each course. The new 11<sup>th</sup> grade MCA II tests Algebra 2 concepts and we have many kids who have never taken an Algebra class. Many of these kids fall into an ethnic or poverty cell (subgroup) which hurts our test scores and state report cards. We are looking at the high school math classes and making sure all students get some level of algebra. Elementary Everyday Math curriculum does cover algebraic principles and teachers are seeing a higher level of kids understanding these concepts in the elementary schools.

**3. 2005-06 Staff Development**

Bernie passed out the draft of the 2005-06 staff development plan. The first day for district staff development will be on Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup> (after Open House). Bernie passed out the foundation for the district site improvement plans. This

is based on what we have done this year with vertical teaming and the results of the TQE survey. The areas that TQE focused on were activities to help staff recognize and respond to student behaviors and mental health issues. The other area was student achievement in Reading, Math and Science - these three areas will be tested by the state. We also want to continue differentiating curriculum. Talahi school, with the Reading First grant, has seen tremendous increases in student learning and achievement. The grant provides additional resources and time for collaboration between staff.

Title I funding to our district will be less for next year and Kennedy will no longer qualify. Westwood qualifies but is on the bubble and we may not be able to include them due to limits in funding. We have to set aside funds for Talahi in both transportation and supplemental services for parental choices due to their AYP status.

#### **4. Summer Curriculum Projects**

Significant work will need to be done in Science. Earth Science will move to grade 6 and we need to develop that piece. We will do additional reading work to plan the fall inservice. We need to supplement 6<sup>th</sup> grade mathematics. There will be changes to Social Studies and World History at the senior high and teachers will need training. Roger Ziemann would like to have this information out to teachers soon.

#### **5. Future of Committee Discussion**

Bernie indicated that this committee was an experiment this year. If the committee no longer existed we would miss an important communications link to staff. The consensus was that if we could find money to continue we would. We could come up with a plan that we would meet maybe every other month. Bernie will have Shelly send out a note to each member of the committee asking them to indicate if they would like to continue next year. If you don't want to continue your principal would find a replacement. Some of the teachers thought it should not be new staff every year because of the learning curve.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.