

February 9, 2009

Dear Parents,

Thank you for attending the focus group regarding the PLAN FOR TEACHING & LEARNING on January 29, 2009!

I have attached the results of your feedback regarding Wellness, Technology and Curriculum & Instruction. I have also included the questions that were written on notecards that were addressed during the session as well.

I recognize that there were strong feelings regarding the discussion regarding "reteaching", student mastery of learning objectives and grading. These are tough discussion as we look at how ALL student can meet and exceed the standards and how that translates to grades. Other concerns noted were students having repeated chances to master content, grade point averages, class rank and Valedictorian status, rigor and overcoming barriers in the district to be an excellent school district. The administration and teaching staff that attended listened to your concerns and have been processing them over the last week.

The administration is planning a parent visitation to Stevenson High School in Buffalo Grove, the high school that founded and has been utilizing Professional Learning Communities for the last 20 years. We will also be planning follow up sessions to further inform parents and address concerns.

Again, thank you for taking the time to be a part of the Somonauk Learning Community and participate in the focus group. Feel free to communicate with me at workmans@somonauk.net if you would like to follow up on the focus group meeting.

Sincerely,

M. Susan Workman, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools