

GRE Advisory Team Minutes August 25, 2010

Attendance: Richard Schaef, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
6 Parents and 0 Staff Members (see Attendance List)

Principal's Report:

New This Year

- Office Secretary – Susan Dyroff, the new Office Secretary, has decided to change to a different school. She will be replaced by Mary Baca, who comes from Normandy Elementary School.
- Regina Gartner has joined the Interventions teaching team.
- Kindergarten – consists of two classes this year (one full-day, and one half-day). Sharon Williams will teach the half-day class.
- Chantel Hull has returned to teach 5th Grade with funds made available by the District for one year (allowing for three 5th Grade classes).
- 6th Grade classes are departmentalized by subject. Karen Anderson will teach reading and word study, Kristen Vanosdoll will teach social studies and writing, and Michael Varney will teach math and science. Students will rotate and mix over three periods per day. 5th Grade will incorporate some rotation of subjects, as well, with Eileen Bauer teaching reading, Chantel Hull teaching math, and Amy Nelson teaching writing.
- School Lunches – The District has revised/revamped the lunch offerings to include more fresh choices instead of heat and serve type meals. District changes are also more sensitive to nut allergies.
- Staff Committees – have been reorganized to focus on current needs as follows:
 - Professional Development Steering Committee – to provide teaching strategies and reviews of how students are educated.
 - Positive Behavior Support and Student/Staff Recognition – to provide incentive programs for students and staff.
 - Student Discipline and Behavior Problem-Solving – to develop school-wide processes and procedures, and to provide greater support for students needing intervention.
 - Parent University Planning Committee – to provide four sessions this year to help parents support student learning outside of school.

CASP Results – School-wide CSAP results from 2009-2010 were presented and discussed in detail. Current year scores were compared to prior year scores in assessments of status, growth, and gaps and to view trends. GRE student scores compare favorably versus the District and the State. Exceptional 6th Grade scores highlight GRE's success at preparing these students for middle school.

Unified Improvement Plan – School accreditation will no longer be based on State Accreditation, School Accountability Report (SAR), and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) reports. Colorado Senate Bill 09-163 places the onus on a single plan to assess school performance. The Unified Improvement Plan will assess academic achievement, growth, and growth gaps by using a School Performance Framework (SPF) based on CSAP data. Schools will be designated as: Performance Accredited, Improvement Accredited, Priority Improvement Accredited, or Turnaround Accredited. A narrative addressing trends, deficits, and actions plans needs to be

GRE Advisory Team Minutes August 25, 2010

delivered to the Colorado Department of Education, which will compile all school reports and provide comparison data on its website.

GRE Staff Committee Reports: None.

Open Forum: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Attendance List

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Richard Schaefer | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |
| Erika Carpenter | Parent |
| Kimberly Crouch-Wong | Parent |
| Evvy Purdy | Parent |
| John Sileo | Parent |
| Mary Sileo | Parent |
| Valerie Sturm | Parent |

GRE Advisory Team Minutes September 22, 2010

Attendance: Richard Schaefer, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
3 Parents and 1 Staff Members (see Attendance List)

GRE Staff Committee Reports:

Student Discipline and Behavior Problem-Solving – Identified four goals for this year: 1) act as the behavior solving team to help students needing intervention; 2) review systemic practices in regards to discipline and behavior management; 3) deal with specific behavior initiatives (anti-bullying curriculum); and 4) identify and communicate core behavior expectations.

Positive Behavior Support and Student/Staff Recognition – Are reviewing a behavior matrix and creating new Top 3 at GRE Posters which includes pictures. Have created a Student/Teacher of the Month Wall at the front of the school to recognize one student per class who has demonstrated Top 3 at GRE behaviors and to highlight one teacher. Are also considering a student assembly featuring a magician who will combine magic with respect, and a Random Acts of Kindness seminar for the staff (to get ideas on giving back to the community for the students). Discussion followed: Parents wishing to suggest ideas to this committee can do so through the Advisory Team Meetings.

Parent University Planning Committee – Selected programs and dates as follows:
1) October 18, 2010 – Math Investigations; 2) December 6, 2010 – Love and Logic;
3) March 14, 2011 – Writing; and 4) May, 15, 2011 – Reading in Summer.

Professional Development Steering Committee – Selected the Regie Routman in Residence curriculum for professional development, which will be studied over a two year period. Due to the continuous nature of the committee's purpose, it will not report at Advisory Meetings for the remainder of this school year.

Principal's Report:

School Security – On September 11, the school was painted with graffiti. The District is paying to have it cleaned off and it is hoped that most of the paint will be removed this weekend with a more toxic process. The damaged area will remain covered until satisfactorily cleaned and Mr. Morton asked the District to immediately cover offensive language in any future incidents. The District is also sending over a technician to review the property lighting, but has requested that GRE not pursue installing cameras as they are currently establishing school standards.

Unified Improvement Plan Process/School Performance Framework – As mentioned in the previous meeting, the school accreditation process has changed. GRE has received the highest rating possible. In conjunction with this new process, GRE has identified two goals for the year which focuses attention on students needing improvement in reading and writing.

Parent Welcoming Environment Survey – The District has asked that a parent survey be issued and tabulated by the end of October. The questions involve the school environment, school communications, and academic attitudes. A suggestion was made to include a question on communicating concerns to the school. GRE will issue the survey electronically – notifying parents via email.

**GRE Advisory Team Minutes
September 22, 2010**

Open Forum: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Attendance List

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Richard Schaeff | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |
| Kathy Dodrill | Staff |
| Kimberly Crouch-Wong | Parent |
| Heidi O'Leary | Parent |
| Tim Ryckman | Parent |

GRE Advisory Team Minutes October 27, 2010

Attendance: Richard Schaef, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
3 Parents and 1 Staff Members (see Attendance List)

Open Forum:

GRE Anti-Bullying Policy – Penny Huebsch and Kimberly Crouch-Wong presented concerns about recent events affecting the GRE environment, asked what actions were being taken by GRE to address these issues, and made several recommendations.

As a product of the discussion, several items were discussed, including:

- Bullying is defined as an unbalanced relationship with action taken with the intent to do harm.
- GRE has this year initiated two anti-bullying programs (Second Step and Steps to Respect), and plans to host a Connecting the Dots program and a presentation from Detective George Mumma of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department for 5th and 6th graders later this school year. Students will be surveyed now and at year-end to measure the impact of this training.
- A survey has collected staff responses and reaction to the knowledge and skills needed to effectively handle bullying situations, shortfalls have been identified, and GRE is in the process of forming professional development based on the results.
- Signage has been ordered to replace aging Top 3 at GRE signs (to include pictures to help define behaviors for younger students), and bullying/good behavior posters will be displayed and rotated around the school this year.
- A review of GRE Incident Referral forms and planned modifications.

Suggestions from the discussion included:

- Ensure parent handouts of the current programs are being sent home
- Develop written GRE anti-bullying policies (one for staff and one for students)
- Identify victim rights in any written policies
- Develop a behavior/consequences flowchart for distribution to everyone
- Hold an anti-bullying poster contest for the students
- Better communicate incidents (and clinic visits) to parents of victimized students
- Develop a parent referral form to alert GRE of otherwise unreported incidents
- Develop a method and encourage students to report bullying behavior

GRE Staff Committee Reports:

Student Discipline and Behavior Problem-Solving and Positive Behavior Support and Student/Staff Recognition – These committees did not give reports as elements under their scope was included in the Open Forum - GRE Anti-Bullying Policy discussion.

Parent University Planning Committee – Session held on October 18, 2010 went very well. Next sessions is December 6, 2010 – Love and Logic. A video will be shown followed by discussion.

Principal's Report:

Raccoon Run – Nearly \$10,000 was raised. The portion of the funds allocated to the PE program will be used to purchase fitness equipment. The majority of the funds will be used to replace aging laptop computers, buy Ipods (for podcasting), a video camera (for the broadcast network), and webcams (for teleconferencing), and two Kindle readers (for reading intervention).

GRE Advisory Team Minutes October 27, 2010

Welcoming Environment Survey Results – Preliminary results of the District’s parent survey were presented. At this point, answers to the survey indicate a need to address a few areas, including, providing timely information to parents, increasing parent opportunities for providing feedback, reinforcing a positive school environment, and providing student support for success. Currently, 113 responses have been collected. A reminder to complete the survey was emailed to parents this evening. After month end, final results will be tabulated and presented to the staff and the Advisory Team for consideration.

District Budget Review – Board of Education members will hold meetings around the district on November 13th (Saturday). The local meeting will be at Summit Ridge Middle School from 10:00 – 11:30 am. Paula Noonan and the District Finance Manager will host this meeting.

Climate and Culture/Strategic Plan – The District has asked all Advisory Teams to continue setting and monitoring goals related to the school climate and community participation. Goals will be established based on results from the Welcoming Environment Survey, Make your Voice Heard Survey, and other areas.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Attendance List

| | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Richard Schaeff | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |
| Kathy Dodrill | Staff |
| Kimberly Crouch-Wong | Parent |
| Penny Huebsch | Parent |
| Tim Ryckman | Parent |

GRE Advisory Team Minutes December 01, 2010

Attendance: Richard Schaef, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
4 Parents; 1 Student; and 1 Staff Member (see Attendance List)
Holly Anderson, Jeffco Community Superintendent

Principal's Report:

Comprehensive Discipline Plan – Mr. Morton presented a draft GRE policies/discipline plan in detail along with the draft Discipline Matrix. During the course of the presentation, feedback was solicited and the new Anti-Bullying and Rights/Responsibilities posters were viewed (these posters will be placed and rotated around the school). The draft plan will be reviewed and considered by the GRE Student Discipline and Behavior Problem-Solving Committee and the staff/parent group working on the Discipline Matrix before its release.

Climate and Culture Strategic Plan – Goals for the current year were presented and explained and will be sent to the District for monitoring. [The document will be posted on the GRE Website]

GRE Staff Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Open Forum:

Bullying - Student bullying concerns were discussed. Mr. Morton explained GRE's anti-bullying initiative and programs being presented to the students this year. This issue continues to be a topic of concern.

Attendance List

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|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Richard Schaef | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |
| Holly Anderson | Jeffco Community Superintendent |
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| Kathy Dodrill | Staff |
| Penny Huebsch | Parent |
| Evyv Purdy | Parent |
| Erin Quinn | Parent |
| Tim Ryckman | Parent |
| Olivia Gaborek | Student |

GRE Advisory Team Minutes January 26, 2011

Attendance: Richard Schaefer, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
2 Parents and 1 Staff Member (see Attendance List)

Principal's Report:

Geography Bee and Spelling Bee – Winners were announced. Tayte Vanosdoll will need to pass a written test before competing in the next round of the Geography Bee. Emma Schneider and Annie Chen will compete at the next level of the Spelling Bee on 1-28-2011. Winners were announced to the school on the GRE broadcast.

Calendar Items

- February 8 – 5th and 6th grades will take part in a “Connecting the Dots” respect/team building/student awareness program presented in conjunction with GRE’s anti-bullying program. Students from Columbine High School will assist as mentors.
- February 9 – is an Early Release Day (at 12:00 noon). Parent/Teacher conferences will be scheduled from 1:00 – 6:00. More conferences will be scheduled for February 17 from 3:00 – 8:00.
- February 10/11 – PTA Science Fair.
- February 10 – PTA Spaghetti Dinner – open to all, but tickets must be purchased in advance.
- February 14 – Valentine’s Day celebrations will be planned by individual classes.
- February 18-21 – Long weekend. No school on Friday or the following Monday.
- February 16-17 – CSAP testing starts on with 3rd Grade Reading.

Evacuation Plan Update – GRE has revised the evacuation location from the Food Court at Southwest Plaza to the Best Buy store location (parking lot, or inside store, if necessary). Mr. Morton visited the facility to coordinate logistics with store management. The model has been changed from an 8 hour operation to 1 hour. A practice drill is being planned to include student reunification with parents. [Parents will pick up their children from the Best Buy parking lot. Any remaining students will be escorted back to GRE for release].

School Lunches – Prices have increased from \$2.00 to \$2.50 per lunch to support the fresher/healthier lunch menu (the school lunch program is self sustaining).

GRE News – To be issued this week will include a reminder about before and after school playground use rules, and parking lot safety concerns.

GRE Staff Committee Reports:

Positive Behavior Support (PBS) – Classes reviewed the Discipline Matrix and behavior expectations, and the committee has decided that this should be an annual January occurrence. The paraprofessional staff has reported that students are utilizing the “Peace Path” with assistance from 3rd and 4th grade student monitors. The committee is searching for innovative rewards for earning Respect Slips and will issue a school-wide challenge to encourage positive behavior with a “Walk and Roll” event as the reward. The committee will use the GRE News to publish details of the Respect Slip and the Student of the Month programs.

GRE Advisory Team Minutes January 26, 2011

Parent University – Jefferson County Public Library will present at the next conference on March 14, 2011. The presentation will include a tutorial on how to use the library to find information and how to use online and other resources. School laptops will be made available to explore these resources. The May conference will highlight Summer Reading ideas. The committee is researching incentives for students to read over the summer.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Open Forum: None.

Attendance List

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Richard Schaeff | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |
| Kathy Dodrill | Staff |
| Annie Cunningham | Parent |
| Evy Purdy | Parent |

GRE Advisory Team Minutes February 23, 2011

Attendance: Richard Schaefer, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
0 Parents and 1 Staff Member (see Attendance List)

Principal's Report:

Core Instruction – Staff are providing core instruction targeting specific areas identified by acuity tests as needing support to meet District goals.

Connecting the Dots – Fifth and Sixth Graders participated in this program that fosters respect, anti-bullying, and team building on February 8, 2011. Over 30 students from Columbine High School assisted in the presentation. An activities packet was provided that the Sixth Grade Team can use at Outdoor Lab later this year. This program costs about \$1,500 and is planned to be offered to the Fifth and Sixth Grade classes every other year.

Staffing – Due to planned budget reductions, GRE will reduce the number of First, Fifth, and Sixth Grade classes to two each. As a result, the two instructional staff members on term contracts will not have their contracts extended. The District has also planned for four furlough days next year where the District will be closed and no school will be in session. NOTE: These measures do not consider the impact of additional cost reductions that would be required by the Colorado governor's newly released budget proposal. A District budget summit will be held on March 4 and 5, 2011 to discuss the impact of the governor's proposed budget.

Snow Make-up Days – Although classes for February 1st and 2nd were cancelled due to inclement weather, only one make-up day has been scheduled (no make-up day will be scheduled for February 2nd). The school calendar has been extended with the last day of school scheduled as Tuesday, May 31, 2011.

Building Emergency Response Team – Three drills are planned for the remainder of this school year. A “shelter drill” and a “lockdown drill” will take little time and cause little disruption in the school day. A more involved “evacuation drill” is being planned for this spring to include offsite parent-student reunification [Parents will pick up their children from the Best Buy parking lot. Any remaining students will be escorted back to GRE for release]. Details will be announced at a later date.

PTA Donation – The PTA has donated over \$10,000 for the purchase and installation of 9 SMARTBoards.

GRE Staff Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Open Forum: None.

**GRE Advisory Team Minutes
February 23, 2011**

Attendance List

Richard Schaefer
Will Morton

Chairperson
Principal

Kathy Dodrill

Staff

GRE Advisory Team Minutes March 23, 2011

Attendance: Richard Schaef, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
2 Parents and 1 Staff Member (see Attendance List)

Principal's Report:

Calendar

03/28/2011 – Spring Break

04/15/2011 ; 04/18/2011 – Modified Schedule for Testing

04/25/2011 – 6th Grade Outdoor Lab

Smartboards – The 9 new Smartboards donated by the PTA will be installed in selected classrooms right after Spring Break. It will bring GRE's total Smartboard count to 14.

Budget – The 2011-12 District budget was presented. It calls for a 3% pay cut implemented as six furlough days (two student contact days and four non-contact days); reductions in capital projects; some school closures and mergers; increases in athletic fees; and a new bus transportation fee. Outdoor Lab schools will also be suspended, although other financing options for this budget item is being pursued (donations/corporate sponsorship). Discussion followed: Methods for increasing parent volunteers and possible GRE alternatives to Outdoor lab were suggested.

GRE Staff Committee Reports:

Parent University Planning Committee – Planning a “Kick-Off to Summer Reading” program which will include a Kindle reader as a prize.

Student Discipline and Behavior Problem-Solving Committee – A revised Referral Form has been developed and is at the printers.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Committee Chairman – Richard Schaef will continue to serve as the Advisory Committee Chairman for the 2011 – 2012 school year.

Open Forum: None.

Attendance List

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Richard Schaef | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Kathy Dodrill | Staff |
| Evy Purdy | Parent |
| Tim Ryckman | Parent |

GRE Advisory Team Minutes April 27, 2011

Attendance: Richard Schaef, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
3 Parents and 0 Staff Member (see Attendance List)

Principal's Report:

Dr. Cindy Stevenson – A short news feature (“Your Show” on 9News) with Dr. Stevenson discussing the District budget issues was viewed.

GRE Volunteers – Due to the much larger class sizes anticipated for next year, it is expected that the teaching staff will make more use of parent volunteers. Mr. Morton expressed a desire to have a School-wide Volunteer Coordinator for the classrooms.

Staffing – Teaching staff assignments for next school year are as follow:

Kindergarten – Susie Rogers, Sharon Williams (Half-Day)
1st Grade – Shannon Arnold/Tammy Franier, Sarah Clark
2nd Grade – Laurie Dalesio, Sandra Meyer, Beth Woydziak,
3rd Grade – Cathy Price, Amy Rootes, Shelly Walton
4th Grade – Katrina Martin, Michael Varney, Gail Walls
5th Grade – Eileen Bauer, Amy Nelson
6th Grade – Karen Anderson, Kristen Vanosdoll
SLIC – K-1 Vacant Position, 3-4 Sara Gill, 5-6 Regina Gartner
SLD – Bobbi Schuster, Candy Spector
Office Staff, Specials Staff, Additional Staff, Paraprofessional Staff – No Change

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) – This program is designed to provide positive male role models to the students by having Dads patrol the school as campus security monitors. Mr. Morton observed this program at Powderhorn Elementary School and would like to start it at GRE. An organizer will be needed. Details can be viewed at www.fathers.com.

2011 – 2012 School Fees – A tentative fee schedule based on curriculum and program materials for next year was presented:

| <u>Grade Level</u> | <u>Fees</u> | |
|-----------------------|-------------|--|
| K | \$30.00 | |
| 1 st Grade | \$42.50 | |
| 2 nd Grade | \$57.00 | |
| 3 rd Grade | \$49.00 | |
| 4 th Grade | \$47.00 | |
| 5 th Grade | \$53.50 | |
| 6 th Grade | \$45.50 | [\$300 additional for Outdoor Lab, if offered] |
| SLIC | \$33.50 | |

Outdoor Lab – Is currently cancelled pending independent funds being raised. Approximately \$81,000 has been raised, so far. \$600,000 is needed (\$300,000 in cash, \$300,000 in pledges) by 06/15/2011 in order for the District to plan on offering Outdoor Lab next school year.

Colorado Content Standards – New education standards will begin rolling out next year. There will be fewer standards, but every student will be expected to reach proficiency.

GRE Advisory Team Minutes April 27, 2011

2011 – 2012 Calendar – The school calendar was presented:

08/22/2011 – School Starts

09/09 , 09/12/2011; -or- 09/16 , 09/19/2011 – Student Assessments (format may be changed to “by appointment” instead of ½ day schedules)

11/21 – 11/25/2011 – Thanksgiving Break (one full week)

01/09 – 01/13/2012 – 6th Grade Outdoor Lab [provided funding is available]

03/26 – 03/30/2012 – Spring Break [No School 04/02/2012 – Teacher Comp Day]

12/19 – 01/02/2012 – Winter Break [No School 01/03/2012 – Staff Development Day]

02/17 – 02/20/2012 – Long Weekend

04/11/2012; 05/04/2012 – Furlough Days – No School

09/28, 10/26/2011, 01/25, 02/29, 04/25, 05/16/2012 – Early Release Days [12:00]

05/30/2012 – Last Day of School [Early Dismissal 12:30]

Advisory Meeting Dates – the committee is currently planning on moving meeting dates to the 2nd Monday of each month for next school year pending concurrence by the PTA.

Evacuation Drill – GRE will hold an evacuation drill coordinated with the Sherriff and Fire Departments on 05/10/2011 at 1:30. All students will walk to the Best Buy store and parent reunification will begin around 1:50. At 2:15, students that have not been picked up will begin returning to the school for regular release at 2:40. Details will be provided to parents this week.

GRE Staff Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Open Forum: None.

Attendance List

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Richard Schaeff | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |

| | |
|------------------|--------|
| Annie Cunningham | Parent |
| Evy Purdy | Parent |
| Tim Ryckman | Parent |

GRE Advisory Team Minutes May 25, 2011

Attendance: Richard Schaeff, Chairperson, Will Morton, Principal
1 Parent and 0 Staff Member (see Attendance List)

Principal's Report:

Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students) – Mr. Morton will review this program over the summer and GRE will implement the program in August. The plan is to get several volunteers to start the program while a formal program roll out takes place at the start of the school year.

Class Lists – Tentative class assignments will be distributed with report cards on the last day of school. Assignments were developed by the current grade teaching staff. Academic abilities, student behavior, and individual concerns were all considered in creating the assignments.

Evacuation Drill – The evacuation drill was held without incident. GRE's Building Emergency Response Team, along with Jefferson County Sheriffs and Jeffco District personnel held a debriefing session afterward. Several key concerns were discussed and a revised evacuation plan will be developed.

GRE News – Mr. Morton is contemplating whether to make weekly news updates via telephone. The committee supported this plan to foster better communication with the school community.

GRE Staff Committee Reports: None.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Accountability/Advisory By-Laws Update – GRE By Laws were updated to reflect the committee's new role as defined by Colorado Statute. The new By Laws were created using the Jeffco District guidelines with a few modifications and take effect immediately. A copy will be posted on the school website.

Accountability/Advisory Registration Flyer – The committee reviewed a flyer which will be handed out with registration packets next year. A suggestion was made to include next year meeting dates on the back of the flyer, or tentative dates of typical topics of discussion.

Open Forum:

Student Behavior – Brainstorming discussion of how to teach conflict resolution was held. Thoughts included having a monthly guest speaker (athletes, law enforcement, martial arts studio, and high school students) to exhibit positive role models, and having the Watch D.O.G.S. volunteer patrol the playground at recess to help in monitoring student behavior.

Attendance List

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Richard Schaeff | Chairperson |
| Will Morton | Principal |
| Evvv Purdy | Parent |