

## Parent Café 1/19/11

### Participants

4 parents, 1 Grandparent, 1 teen, and 8 Children

### Parent Café Questions

1. What are the strengths, challenges and talents for our school?
2. What are the academic needs for students?
3. What helps students be successful?

### Responses

#### Q1: What are the strengths, challenges and talents for our school?

##### Strengths

Small Community  
Caring people in area  
Diverse  
Reading program  
Improvement of student reading scores

##### Challenges

Need more people involved  
Transition 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is shocking for children  
Lack of parent involvement  
Lack of funds (Booster, school, parents, district)  
Lack of challenges for individual students  
Social Media-training on dangers (bullying)  
Lack of technology  
Bullying in school-mentioned as a big problem

##### Suggested solutions

Have a math club or reading club once per week for kids who need extra help or for those who want to be challenged. This could help kids who need it get extra help and those with higher levels may get different challenges-harder work.  
Peer tutoring

#### Q2: What are the academic needs for students?

Transition 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is shocking for children  
Lack of challenges for individual students  
Focus on lowest students or teaching to the average student causes some students to be left behind. Math or reading club suggested as a possible solution.

Parents have a hard time helping students with homework if they don't understand the methods.

Possible solution: Have math and science night to explain the methods students use (such as partial products or lattice multiplication). Or send worksheets home to parents to explain methods used.

### **Q3: What helps students be successful?**

Parent involvement

Build a relationship with the teacher

Good communication with teacher.

Progress information from teacher if student needs it (either academic or behavioral)

Having individual personal time with mom or dad

Having goals that challenge students

Discipline in the classroom

Feeling safe-not bullied

### **Ways to help low income families:**

Use movie night as a way to have a school supply drive: Have school supplies be the entrance fee for a movie night. Have businesses sponsor this event to pay for it.

Invite other parents to sponsor a low income student to allow them to participate in JR program. Have raffles to increase money for boosters or school.