

VALLIVUE SCHOOL BOARD SCHOOL TOUR MINUTES
Vallivue Middle School
December 9, 2016

Present

Jeff Forsberg, Chair	Gary Johnston	Shane Schamber
Toni Brinegar, Trustee	Sue Muchow	Letha Blick
Jennifer Cox, Trustee	Joey Palmer	Brian Lee
Pat Charlton	Cindy Johnstone	Debbie Watkins

Vallivue Middle School Tour

Principal Brian Lee welcomed the group and discussed the staff currently at the middle school. He said that just this year, 16 new staff members have been hired, 4 of which are new to the profession. Brian is in his 3rd year as principal at VMS.

Mr. Lee reported that a leadership committee has been formed at VMS consisting of department chairs, student, parent, and district office representatives. More teachers are encouraged to be involved in a variety of committees so there is greater ownership in the decision-making process.

As student population continues to grow, Mr. Lee said that students can be evaluated academically using the ARtI system in place. Jeff Forsberg asked if the mobility rate is higher than normal. Brian said based on the demographics of 72% free and reduced lunch, the mobility rate is in line with that demographic.

Technology has been a shining star for VMS for the most part due to a large grant from the State Dept. and the District Technology team. The tech integration specialist, Scott Hogan, has been extremely helpful. Blended Academic Model Committee (BAM) has been developed to support teachers with professional development in using technology as a teaching tool in classrooms.

Advanced class offerings have been increased as a result of AVID. Teachers are teaching all classes as advanced classes now. This has shown an increased number of students meeting the benchmark on assessments.

Accreditation process has been helpful with Brian discussing on district goals in staff meetings.

The board toured the Gen Hubler's AVID classroom. Gen was doing a Socratic seminar using technology to answer an essential question about the benefits of college. The group then toured the lunchroom. Three lunch periods are currently needed to get all students through the line.

Regarding future staff needs, Brian reported that this year started with 843 students, 870 are now enrolled. He's anticipating teachers needed for math, science, and possibly social studies. A testing coordinator is needed to take the pressure off the counselors throughout the year.

Jeff Forsberg thanked Mr. Lee for his hard work, then adjourned the VMS tour at 10:05 am.

APPROVED:

Jeff Forsberg, Chair

Cindy Johnstone, Scribe