

SBDM legality issues

1. Curriculum and Instruction: Curriculum means the content students are expected to learn and instruction about how the students will be taught.
 - a. Council was told at the end of last year that we were not in need of textbooks so that funding would be best utilized elsewhere. Since then teachers have stated they had no textbooks or necessary materials to effectively teach class.
 - b. The decision about "specials" was solely decided on by administration not the council. It was announced to parents that kids would learn Spanish at Orientation – no Spanish.
 - c. Council was told of classroom management techniques as well as discipline policies implemented in the classroom but never approved.
 - d. Council had no knowledge of Full and Half Day Preschool classes.
 - e. Council approved split classrooms but parents were being informed of their child being held back because we have no split classrooms.

2. Planning and Budget
 - a. Council members have asked to see the CSIP
 - b. Parents have no access to CSIP through website, school, etc.
 - c. The council is responsible for allocating money in the schools budget but left out of initial decisions regarding funding and rushed through staffing allocation meetings.
 - d. Concerns regarding grant allocations, staffing, misappropriations of funds..
 - e. Concerns regarding Title I funding and the lack of mandated parent involvement allocations. It was stated that the school uses PTA and FRC events since all Title I money is used for teachers.
 - f. Concerns regarding Special Education Funding (no assistant for students for IEP)
 - g. Fundraising issues (payments made to a teacher for t-shirts)

3. Hiring
 - a. No consultation committee for staff hiring

4. Schedule, Staff, Space, and Students
 - a. No policies relating to school schedule, assigning staff time, use of school space, or extracurricular programs and activities as mandated by law.
 - b. Policy regarding student assignment to classes and programs not adhered to. Difficult to enforce policy with high turnover rate.

5. Bylaws
 - a. Blatant disregard for approved bylaws including meeting times and frequency.
 - b. Second administrator named and not elected

How can we say "It's about Kids" when there is:

- no core content info for parents
- questionable testing accountability; student being retained during testing window
- expensive field trips regardless of fee waivers and the connection to core content
- no summer school due to funding (unbeknownst to the council)
- non-rigorous coursework
- outdated technology
- questionable number of students being testing
- lack of student retention policy
- lack of highly qualified staff
- poor teacher retention rate and high turnover every year
- non-supportive leadership
- teaching staff not reflective of population
- supplemental duty pay offered to certain members of the leadership team
- staff intimidation and retaliation
- poor professional development
- blatant disregard for council requested Cultural Sensitivity and Special Education Training
- student cumulative folders lying in the library all summer long and test scores visible
- arbitrary & inconsistent removal of students from school
- inappropriate cultural comments & jokes (gigolo man, "these people," "what are you stealing now")
- inconsistency
- kids being grabbed by the arm, cheeks squeezed, fingers pointed in faces, and threatened with bathroom and recess privileges
- high number of calls to CPS on families
- FRC advisory meetings cancelled and ineffective staffing

Other concerns:

Inconsistently putting kids (both district and out of district kids) out of the school for absences, tardiness, discipline, etc.

Parents have been promised that the school would work on teacher ratio reflecting population of school. Response has been that there are no highly qualified African American teachers.

Kids need consistency and stability rather than being treated as guinea pig

Comments made by administration to take kids out of school to home school or if "you aren't happy you should leave," "worse 5th grade class she ever had"

Holding kids back to keep them from testing

Entire leadership team going into rooms during testing, standing over kids

Staff member suggested looking at eraser marks on test

Full room of kids that were tested 1 on 1 because they were tardy

Distribution of summer school application and cancelled without informing parents

Chat and chew meeting discussed in GSI summary happened once, agreements were made but not followed through

Retaliation against parents who have come forward with issues or complaints

Based on our assessments, obvious disregard for KERA and NCLB laws, and the loss of educational excellence for our children over the past two years, we want:

Curriculum and financial audit of all books / spending for last two years

Evaluation of all staffing position (.6 here / .4 there, time/ pay allotted per staff member)

Test score investigation

Independent testing

Evaluation of how many teachers that have left in the last two years

Follow up meeting with community leaders and school board representative

New principal who will encourage greater ethical, moral, and educational standards as well as cultural appreciation toward all of our families.