

	<p>actually running. We are not supposed to keep our doors open, and that would not help much in any case, since there is rarely a breeze. She would like to know if it is possible to have the fan part of the heater A/C system running. She states that it is against CA building code to not run the fans, since the buildings were designed for mechanical ventilation. She feels the stuffy, stale conditions lead to health problems. She herself suffers from asthma, due in part to the closed environment in her room. She adds that the unclean conditions of our classrooms don't help the problem.</p>		<p>off due to complaints of cold air drafts. If the school or a particular wing of classrooms at the school wants them turned on again, check with your principal for the procedure of submitting a work order requesting this be done.</p> <p>*(Refer to Mr. Lingo's memo - item # 1)</p>
3	<p>Many teachers are concerned because our classrooms are almost constantly dirty. Chalkboards and tables are not being cleaned (M. Eggert has been notified by a couple of us. . .); the floors are almost always filthy, etc. One teacher made the point that our situation as a middle school is substantially different from an elementary school in that we have 200+ students coming through our classrooms daily. This leads to increased problems with maintaining a clean environment. One teacher suggests that our classrooms should be cleaned 3 times per week instead of twice; the tile floors need to be mopped or buffed more often. The same teacher bought himself a broom (the school would not provide one) and has also been observed using a leaf blower in his classroom to clean up the trash - it's that bad! We are all making an effort to keep trash to a minimum, but some kinds of dirt need more attention that we can give! Several teachers have mentioned that their boards are never cleaned and that the desks/tables are never cleaned. I have given them Mike Eggert's e-mail and instructed them to let him know.</p>	Linda Cooley Stiern	<p>A classroom checklist has been provided to the teachers. We will run a pilot program for the next month to monitor all items on the checklist and determine how we might do more to help. Teachers will have to fill these out faithfully and turn in to Mike Eggert for the next month in order for us to determine the results. Mr. Eggert will turn in the results to Mr. Lingo who will advise the superintendent. We will report at our next meeting. An important part of the monitoring process will be if the complaint areas are being impacted by chairs not being put up, etc.</p> <p>*(Refer to Mr. Lingo's memo - item #2)</p>
4	When substitute teachers are not	Brad Barnes	No, however, if there is a

	<p>available and a teacher's classes are all sent out to P.E., doesn't this far exceed the cap on class size and isn't the hourly rate far too low for the receiving teacher? Is this a violation of the contract since we have no rotating prep period and P.E. is forced to always take the students?</p>	<p>Chipman</p>	<p>problem at the school, please work with your principal to gather data on the absences that are not being covered by substitutes, i.e. Friday, holiday, or ½ day absences. Once I have seen the data I will send someone to work with your school. Dennis Patrick has created a permanent substitute list for middle schools that should help the problem.</p> <p>*(Refer to Mike Lingo's memo - item #3)</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>We have concerns about the SAFTI testing schedule for 1st grade. A committee is needed to look at the present testing schedule to see if so much testing is needed. Ten benchmark tests are too much for 1st graders.</p>	<p>Rebecca O'Bar Pauly School</p>	<p>If you are interested in participating in a focus group to discuss this matter, please call Debbie Castillo at 631-4838 by 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 17th or sign up on the sheet that has been provided on the front counter. The focus group will discuss with Kathy Walker and members of the prior committee to determine which areas may justify some modification. If there are any areas that can be modified, then Kathy will form a curriculum committee to do the work. If modifications cannot be made, then Kathy and a focus group/teacher liaison member will report on the decision.</p> <p>*(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #1)</p>

6	<p>Why isn't the Curriculum and Instruction Department at the district office designing and distributing uniform practice materials to the schools for CAT testing? Teachers at each site and grade level should not be expected to create any of these materials for free. Also, test prep curriculum needs to be uniform and approved by the district office so we don't find ourselves in violation of using inappropriate test prep materials.</p>	Brad Barnes Chipman	<p>Section 60611 of the California Education Code prevents districts from using any program of specific preparation for State wide tests. Use of materials within the adopted textbooks is permitted. Please see the list provided by the Curriculum department.</p> <p>*(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #2)</p>
7	<p>There are too many tests for kindergarten. Most have to be done individually or in small groups. Some schools do not have aides to help with students in classes. K students can only do so much on their own. Due dates for this month: Report cards Jan. 20, LA Theme 5 Jan 23, Math Jan. 26, Emergent Literacy Jan. 30. Parents are questioning why so much.</p>	Sharon Gutierrez Harding School	<p>The curriculum committee reduced the number of assessments last year for kindergarten. Kathy Walker will hold a focus group meeting to determine if there are modifications that can be made. Sign up with Debbie Castillo and if there is enough interest we will pursue this option.</p> <p>*(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #3)</p>
8	<p>Why are Language Arts Theme test stapled on the right corner and not the left? This is very hard for the students to flip and turn and find the right spot. They are taught to turn it like a book. We complained last year.</p>	Sharon Gutierrez Harding School	<p>The stapling has been changed. Thank you for this helpful idea.</p> <p>*(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #4)</p>
9	<p>Report Cards: The district copied report cards had the font too small. They were hard to read and x did not match the line it had to go on. Ones copied at school site had bigger font and x matched the line to go on. Report Cards did not explain what "ne" meant on it.</p>	Sharon Gutierrez Harding School	<p>Thank you for these comments, they will be addressed. However, printers and printing do vary across the district.</p>

	The ones we marked on computer said N/A which made more sense. A parent asked why I forgot to mark it since it had “not entered or ne”.		*(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #5)
10	Who do we speak with to make suggestions for the report card or Theme/Chapter test to make them easier to enter online? Tests have too much going up and down with mouse.	Sharon Gutierrez Harding School	Sign up for the focus group which will be addressing assessments. *(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #6)
11	For grades K, 1 & 2 - can teachers be given scantron forms to fill out for SAFTI tests rather than having to enter each test manually into the computer?	Susan Dansky Franklin School	Yes it is possible, the reason why it hasn't been implemented is due to cost. I have asked Kathy Walker to work with Information Technology and perhaps we can come up with a plan we can afford for next year. *(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #7)
12	Teachers have asked if we can have scantron to mark instead of entering grades on the computer for report cards. We can only do so many then our wrist, shoulder and neck start hurting.	Sharon Gutierrez, Harding School	*(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #8)
13	Why do they waste so much paper and put a solid cover sheet on each test that we then have to pull off and throw out? The first page of each test says what Theme test it is at the bottom. This is done for other grades also and is a waste of money. Teachers complained last year also.	Sharon Gutierrez Harding School	Originally there was no cover page, however, delivery between the warehouse, schools and teachers was not always accurate. Therefore, with a district our size, paper must be wasted as an address sheet in order for the many classified workers to process items in a timely manner. If you have any ideas on making this process work better, we would appreciate your

	<p>planning, room set up, grading practices, and instructional methods. Will the district IMC also become standards based? For example, a second grade teacher should be able to go in and request materials for teaching Language Conventions 1.3 (parts of speech) and receive the necessary assistance.</p>		<p>that can be used.</p> <p>*(Refer to Kathy Walker's memo - item #12)</p>
17	<p>Shouldn't the emergent literacy survey for "K" 1/30 and phonics testing for 1st - 2nd 1/30 be completed at least 2 weeks before report cards are due 1/27 and not after the report cards have gone home?</p>	<p>Tim Fitzpatrick Frank West</p>	<p><i>A recommendation will be passed on to Kathy Walker and the Curriculum Commission to move the date of the Emergent Literacy Survey for kindergarten and the phonics testing for 1st & 2nd grade to the first or second week of December.</i></p>
18	<p>Why are so many tests due within such a short period of time. Kindergarten teachers must complete 5 tests within 7 days of each other: The concern is that this is way too much testing in such a short time span. Can this be rethought for next year?</p>	<p>Tim Fitzpatrick Frank West</p>	<p><i>The Assessment Focus Group is a good place to work through this question and find out if there is a way to lessen the amount of testing.</i></p>
19	<p>Where did the funding come from to purchase the AMS System? Teachers have been administering the SAFTI tests much earlier than the suggested timeline and yet the information was still not entered in time for making out report cards.</p>	<p>Peg High Downtown</p>	<p><i>We purchased the AMS System in 2002 out of the Research and Evaluation department budget. The majority of the system was purchased with Title I, E-rate and/or mandated cost reimbursement monies. We bought the software because it was far less expensive than the higher per child price that must be paid by a "hosted" system. A hosted system is one with instantaneous return of the data. If instantaneous return of the data is the most important item of a</i></p>

			<i>student data management system, it will require a higher funding level. We need to revise the system to minimize or eliminate any downtime during the window for data entry for report cards.</i>
20	Will there ever be full-time custodians again?	Pam Phillips Roosevelt	<i>We have full-time custodians now and when the budget gets better we would like to have more custodians at the school sites.</i>
21	Why does the board think the union demands are so unreasonable?	Pam Phillips Roosevelt	<i>Neither the Board, nor I believe that BETA's demands are unreasonable. In fact, the Board and superintendent have given salary raises as high as 8% several years ago. The problem is that very hard choices must be made by the negotiators at the table regarding "on-going money" in years when there is no COLA or a deficated COLA and little or no ADA growth. "On-going money" is salary or benefit improvements that are given in one year, but must be continually funded in all future years. The Board and superintendent must cut services or personnel to provide "ongoing money". Last year, the Board and superintendent did that, and they now believe that we are operating at a minimum service level and we are unwilling to do that</i>

		<p><i>again. However, if proposition 57 & 58 pass, and the Improving Education petition gets on the ballot and passes, additional money would be available for ongoing salary and benefit increases in the next few years. The superintendent fully intends to pass that money onto the employees if and when it actually arrives in the district. As your superintendent, however, I find the civil lawsuit initiated by BETA to reemploy the temporary teachers laid off last year, unreasonable.</i></p>
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Handouts:

Kohl's Kids Who Care 2004

Teacher's Classroom Cleaning Checklist

Minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee Meeting, Wednesday, January 7, 2004

Bakersfield Californian article

Governor's 2004-05 State Budget Proposal

***Note:** See your site representative for the attachments referred to in these minutes.