

West Side School
School Improvement Team
Thursday, November 10, 2011
Minutes

SIT Members

Staff: Kurt Simon, Mary Baratta, Linda Gerver, Maria Rodriguez, Karen Schoenberg, and Kristine Tramonte

Parents: Mary Kugler, Mariel Naccarato, Mary Striano, and Karen Reiter

Goals: To create a document for students to write about their favorite West Side School moment and to come to a consensus on the t-shirts the students will wear on the last Wednesday of each month.

- ✎ The SIT members decided that the students' t-shirts should read "West Side Spirit."
- ✎ The document, while needing to be updated slightly each month, can be used for the writing activity connected to West Side Wednesday.
- ✎ The document will allow students to express a positive moment they experienced at school over the past month.
- ✎ November's Theme: What West Side Means to Me
- ✎ December's Theme – Reflecting on the Past
- ✎ Together, SIT members created a word bank of positive terms for students to utilize during their writing.
- ✎ It was decided to highlight one student per grade each month instead of one child throughout the whole school in order to recognize more of the positive experiences our students are having.
- ✎ The committee also brainstormed possible forms in which the students could present their work such as poems, skits, and collages. SIT members felt it was important to allow our students to express themselves in a way they were most comfortable.
- ✎ An initial message at the top of the West Side Wednesday writing form for students explains to the parents the purpose behind the activity.
- ✎ The bulletin board outside the main office should be decorated in a way to acknowledge all students who took the time to participate in the activity.
- ✎ A morning assembly will be used to introduce the writing activity, similar to how the actual day was introduced to get students excited about it and to create a buzz.
- ✎ On the first West Side Wednesday we will have a pep rally.