

## Student Services Committee Meeting Minutes – December 11, 2014

School Board Members in Attendance:

Brenda Clough, Chris McCarthy

Brunswick School Department Representative:

Paul Austin, Director of Student Services

Sharon Harvie – ESL Coordinator

Meeting was called to order by Brenda Clough at 7:33am.

1. Ms. Harvie provided an overview of the ESL program to the committee. Currently, Ms. Harvie reported that 37 children are seen for ESL support and that there are 13 native languages that these children speak (a comprehensive list was provided). At present, Spanish and French are the primary languages of the majority of students. The committee asked questions regarding the provision of services. The committee commented that they would like to hear more at a future date regarding the consultation that takes place between ESL teachers and the general education teachers. Ms. Harvie provided an additional comprehensive overview of how children in ESL are assessed and measured against proficiency standards.
2. The committee heard a report by Mr. Austin regarding the beginning of the Student Services budget for 2015 – 2016. Mr. Austin reported that Local Entitlement Funds may be declining for the coming year and that the services funded may need to be shifted to the general school budget. Mr. Austin discussed the need for a School Psychologist for Coffin Elementary School next year as the current psychologist intern will complete her term this spring. More on the budget at the next meeting.
3. The committee had a brief discussion in regards to the use of technology and how technology is being used to show what students know and what they have learned. Future discussion about technology will center on things that the school department would like to do with technology, but can't at this time due to budget constraints.
4. Meeting adjourned at 8:46 am – Next Meeting is Thursday, January 15, 2015 at 7:30 am in the office of the Director of Student Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Austin, Director of Student Services on December 18, 2014.