



Student Leadership Focus Group Ends Year With Special Dinner

Woodside Elementary has been hosting a special program for a number of years which helps students develop leadership skills. Led by staff members Scott Sigourney and Becky Steckbauer, the “Focus Group” is comprised of a large group of Woodside fifth graders who meet weekly after school for activities and discussion about issues facing young adults today.

One of the special events planned to wrap up each year is the annual “Focus Dinner.” Prior to the event, students are taught about expectations and how to act in a more formal setting. The dinner includes mixed genders of students interacting, holding polite discussion, using proper manners, appropriately dressing for the occasion, and more.

The event was well received again this year as the teacher leaders coordinated a successful event. With help from students who have gone through the program before and serving as role models, the fifth graders learned to develop confidence and gain self-esteem as they "dressed to the hilt," offered their arm to a fellow classmate, held the chair for their table partner, and shared a meal together.

Staff members who lead the student “Focus Group” each year take time to write a grant in order to secure some of the funds which support the program. Like many others throughout the WRPS organization, Mr. Sigourney and Ms. Steckbauer continually exhibit compassion and dedication to our students as they encourage and foster skills which incorporate team building and leadership, and cultivate opportunities for students to be successful.

