

Walnut Hills High School
Local Decision Making Committee Meeting

September 15, 2016

6:00pm

Minutes

Attendees

The following LSDMC members were in attendance: Members Attending: John Chambers, Terrence, Poole, Denise Beauchamp, Steve Baker, Rich Coleman, Brian Sweeney, Beth Ormsby, Kendall Young, Bea Baker, Laura Stith Deck, Emily Bond, and Jeff Brokamp

Introductions and Nominations

Terrence nominated Steve to be chairperson. Rich seconded. Passed.

Steve nominated Laura as vice chair. Emily seconded. Passed.

Emily volunteered for recorder. Denise seconded. Passed.

Jeff volunteered as alternate recorder. Steve seconded. Passed.

Approval of Minutes

Emily moved to approve the May 2016 minutes. Rich seconded. Passed.

Bylaws

It was decided the only change needed was to amend the days and times: second Thursday of the month with the ending time of 8pm since meetings will begin at 6pm.

ILT representative from LSDMC

Last year it was decided we would send a representative from LSDMC to ILT. Emily volunteered. Laura nominated her. Steve seconded. Passed.

Planning for 2016-17

Topics to be covered in meetings this school year:

- Enrollment: Jeff reported that the Board of Ed wants to solve this quickly. The board of Ed threw around the idea of a second building off site. Jeff said the only sure fire way to solve the problem would be to raise the test scores, but that is not an option. The BofE is looking for a permanent solution. Jeff suggested the way to do it would be to have an additional building on the Walnut campus. Terrence suggested making a “second tier” school potentially at Daeter.
- AdvancEd: Jeff reminded the group that the recommendations from the team who visited last year were: 1. to dive deeper into the data and making programming decisions based on that 2. find ways to make the school “smaller” to as to assimilate students better. Denise reminded the group there was also the recommendation to take the burden off

support staff and counselors by adding resources. Jeff said the tax levy is up in November so it's better to wait and see what the financial forecast is before we add resources.

- School schedule/late start time: Jeff reported that he had talked to central office and transportation to say he did not want Walnut to be an afterthought on busing if we moved to a later time. If we feel this is an option we'd want to survey all stakeholders.
- Review policies in student handbook. Brian was concerned these may be obsolete. Beth said there are many new teachers and the teaching policies need to be revised to be consistent. Steve suggested all members review the student handbook and first five pages of introduction (in student folder on website). Come to next meeting with notes and thoughts which we will consolidate into a list. It was suggested that ILT do similarly or at least get their input. Emily will take this idea to the next ILT meeting. Brian asked how much board policy is there already or how much autonomy would we have. John and Jeff said we can access what the board already has in place but we wouldn't want to put the board front and center. We should review first, put something in place, and board can review afterward since policy talk can be sensitive in regard to school board. Steve asked how many students don't return each year. Jeff reported that 17 did not return last year. If a student fails more than 2 semesters s/he may not return the next year but may come back the following year with a B average for the year from another school.

Principal's Report

Jeff suggested we need one full meeting for data (SAT, ACT scores, etc.) as it relates to the accreditation process. Terrence suggested an on-going data piece as an agenda item each meeting. AdvancEd team will inform us as to what needs to be discussed and how to keep moving on this.

Student's Report

Aaron, Bea and Kendall reported that homecoming is the weekend of the 24th. There is a parade before the game on Friday night to showcase clubs and other sports. The dance is on Saturday at Duke Energy. Bea reported that the ILT discussed the issue of monitoring student attendance during the AP tests. They discussed the block seedling and the CPS security agreement, but no motion could be voted on without department meetings.

Evanston Community Report

There was no Evanston Community Report.

Other Business

There being no other business, Bea made a motion to adjourn at 7:00 PM. Passed.