

School Council – Meeting Notes

Tuesday, 11/7/17

In attendance: Charu Puri-Sharma, Max Hunter, Deb Azarzar, Allyson Hart, Keith Carson, Heather Hoganson, Grace Fehrenbach, Laura Horst, Allyson Hart, Dianne Muendel, Sharon Kiernan

We approved minutes from last meeting after Keith took noted that the wanted word *only* stricken under Our Purpose section. Noted and changed.

- Reviewed Norms
- Laura announced that we needed a parent co-chair.
- Keith nominated Charu and Heather seconded it. Not all parents were at meeting and it was suggested that we hold off on approval of nomination until Nira and Grace were contacted. Grace arrived late, Keith nominated Charu, and it was unanimously approved.
- Charu noted a concern about attending all parent forum meetings with superintendent. Heather said she takes turn attending with the other PTO co-president so they could work something out. Keith mentioned he may be able to attend as well.

Staff Survey

- Dianne - staff survey seemed mid-level on everything, discrepancies between staff feedback and family feedback?
- Charu - seemed to be a low rating for addressing advanced students and racial/diversity issues
- Laura - comparing the 2 surveys, family seemed to stay consistent and staff went down a bit
- Charu - mentioned teacher questions: for teachers can you move at a pace, meet the needs of advanced students - all less than half were favorable
- Deb - staff response was surprisingly low
- Charu - counted 55 staff out of 105 total, Allyson noted
- Charu - for next survey can we add our school-based questions?
- Deb- thought we did have the capability to ask custom questions, thought the getting to school on time was a question that Lawrence had added
- Laura- we will look into that
- Allyson- agreed to look into our own Lawrence questions

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

- Allyson and Laura introduced the Frankenstein protocol, a protocol that Katy McGraw had introduce the previous day. We used that protocol to discuss the 3 goals of the SIP
- Allyson showed and read the SIP goals that groups of Lawrence teachers created
- E-mailed Andrew Bott to ask if our SIP can be an 18-month plan, a lot of nods from the council

- Laura read 2a- what the specific request is for this session, What are the teacher moves? She read some of the sample questions such as “How can I encourage more mathematical discussion in my classroom?” and “How can I help students monitor their comprehension in class?”
- She further was explained that we should hone in on some questions today that would fall into the upper, right hand quadrant of Teacher Investment and Generativity. This could lead to a teacher toolkit that teachers would use and families would know about thus providing a transparency between teacher actions and things families could do to support students and teachers. What are those pithy questions that would get us to this place?
- Allyson expressed that at the heart of this teaching and learning should be rigorous, dynamic and fun. We should know that Allyson and Laura rolled out Professional Learning Groups. 8 groups that will meet during faculty meetings. Teachers will apply and they’ll get approved. Equity, high quality instruction, provided anchor texts...

Protocol:

- 5 minutes to create questions on post-it notes.
- There was a clarifying question from Max about culture.
- Allyson- they should provide growth and learning for teachers is modeling for our students.
- Grace- should we add a sentence to the 3rd Culture goal to add a family component as well?
- Allyson and Laura thought that was a very good idea.
- Group began to work on questions
- Allyson said she needs help adding the family perspective to the culture goal and that she and Laura would work on the wording that day before faculty meeting.
- The group created questions and then shared their questions.
- Allyson collected the post-it notes with questions and asked for Stars and Stairs

Stars

- Liked the openness of the group with respect to the Survey discussion
- People liked the vibe
- Liked getting the agenda e-mailed in advance
- Liked Allyson’s request for more time for SIP, in essence we are working on phase 1 of SIP
- School council is fully behind the plan

Stairs

- None noted

Next Steps:

- Allyson and Laura will reflect addition that was proposed to the Culture goal re: how to connect it to students, families, and community.

