

LSAT Meeting Minutes – November 18th

Welcome and Review/Follow Up of Principal's Report

1. Expand on the positive Achievement Network test results at Stuart Hobson
All schools in year 2 restructuring are part of the "A-Net," and of the 40 schools participating, Stuart-Hobson reported the highest test scores in DCPS.
Using data to inform instruction.
To ensure that teachers are more intentional in their planning
Ms. Franklin has summary
Re-teaching action items
Nov. 30 and Dec. 1- next test

6:10–6:40 Review/Update Current Issues

1. Youth Risk Behavior Study: status of letter (*Helen Searles*)
Ask at end to be more thoughtful and adopt a specific and more explicit parent notification so students do not mistakenly take test.
2. Parking and drop-off/pick-up policies at Watkins: status of traffic cones (*Joan Jackson/Clayton Witt*); draft of policy for pick-up and drop-off at Watkins and Peabody (*Mark Engman*)
Still no cones- in process. Maybe from DCPS or from ANC?
Concern that security guard may be reassigned- wait until new guard is instituted
Will distribute to parents soon some guidance on drop off rules/guidelines
3. Update on Walls math entrance exam (*Mark Engman*) first no data then no machine to read data. SWW won't give prior year test out to help potential students prepare, yet test is likely available on-line as Massachusetts state math CAS test. Possible that SWW is using a 10th grade test?; Stuart-Hobson staff is conducting interview training for students applying to high schools for next year; need to determine if staff could use parent help in conducting mock interviews.
4. Possibility of Cluster-wide field trip transportation contract negotiations (*Marc Smith*)
Need teacher responses if we want to do this: number of trips, how many kids and general distances- within 30 miles or not
Purpose- to make trips more affordable- dc tours is one possible contractor
DCPS rep Diana Bruce says there is a draft field trip directive- transportation. Schools would be responsible for expense and contracting, should be planned at lowest possible cost, sponsor must get valid/current licenses and proof of liability insurance, etc. Dr. Jackson says Cluster already doing same.
5. GOLD advisory report card system at Peabody, SWS and Montessori: assessment of effectiveness and update on refinements
Letter was sent out to parents with report card, explaining issues we are still working on. Some parents disappointed with nature of comments; teachers feel it is more work. More communication coming soon, including invites to families to view child's electronic portfolio

6. ACE: status of Ms. McNair's mat leave replacement (*BE*); long-term strategy for accelerated learning programs (*Matt Doherty*)
 Janet Gregor long term sub is not available.
 Robert Curry- not sure if available
 Plan B- Ms. Starnes, Dr. Jackson says she might assume the role? The period in need of coverage is only until mid January, so with holidays there will be less impact on program's continuity.
 Junior Great Books at Watkins
 Independent Studies at Stuart-Hobson.

7. Cluster continued viability. Is there a proposal at DCPS to disband the Cluster?
 Assessment of situation and strategies moving forward. (*Marc Smith*)
 Background- People in DCPS are questioning the value of the cluster. Move for change for change's sake?
 We need to assert its value but not be too defensive.
 Thanks to Melanie Pittard for improvement in communication
 Strengthen the sense of community. Important conversation to have whether it happens or not.
 Benefit of cluster is shown at the level of the junior high; students enter with foundation and feeling of community
 Outreach to J.O. Wilson and Ludlow Taylor families
 What does the cluster represent? What's our identity?
 December- aim to have tangible action items
 Keep it positive and let our assets be known.
 Common practice- to "revision" and look at who you are and where you're going
 My School, Our School

6:40-6:50 Sub-Group Updates, Assignments and Objectives

Cluster Communication Strategies (*Don Montouri*, who will be leaving LSAT to take over management of the Capital Hill Classic)

Cluster Campus Modernization

- a. Montessori expansion and move to Logan (*Sandra Moscoso/Brandon Eatman*)

Continues to look like a done deal

- b. 5th grade return to Watkins and implications for SH and Watkins layouts; status of operational and physical move; curriculum integration of 5th grade and 4th grade (*Joan Jackson*)

We need to revisit the idea of 5th grade teachers and their new technology

Watkins can not handle new technology and may not see same benefits as Hobson has currently.

Plan for a community meeting in January to update 4th grade and interested parents on the move as soon as more details are hashed out.

- c. 2012 Masters Facilities Plan for Three Campuses: update (*Clayton Witt*)

Ward 6 Middle School Plan

- a. Stuart-Hobson Collaboration Team (*Vince Morris*)

Very little has happened so far. Next meeting is Monday Nov 22 6:00 at JO Wilson discussing communications. Will update more after this.

Have we ever officially reached out to the other schools feeding into Stuart? Do we need to host open house for them?

Letter to parents informing them (and selling them on the cluster!) that 5th grade IS going to be at Watkins before Winter Break-J. Jackson will write it

b. Stuart-Hobson Museum Magnet Curriculum Development (Lee Glazer)

6:50-7:00 Open Floor/Q&A

If it is at Stuart how does it fit with AI/Responsive Classroom at other campuses?

Dec- have it organized into list of action items.