

LSAT Minutes
February 24, 2011

New Business:

After 8 years at the Capitol Hill Cluster School Mr. Eatman will leave his current post to become the principal of the Montessori School at Logan.

He is excited take a well established program and support its growth to be the first DC Public School of its kind. He will remain until the end of this school year and will still be a part of LSAT, staffing decisions, etc. Letters are going home with all students tomorrow.

Dr. Haws, instructional superintendent:

Mr. Eatman will be in charge of the process of assigning fifth grade teachers to Watkins. He and Dr. Haws will make decisions about any other positions to fill.

The Cluster will remain a cluster.

A panel of teachers and parents will meet and interview candidates for principal but the Chancellor has the final say.

What can LSAT do to have input in and support this process?

- We can provide a job description. Modify- send particular ideas to H. Searles

- Have policies in place

1. Museum Learning at Stuart Hobson
2. Renovation of Stuart Hobson
3. Differentiated Instruction Strategies

Montessori- commitment to before and aftercare and feeding into Stuart
Still a part of the cluster? Need clarification.

1. Museum Learning at Stuart Hobson

A preliminary planning paper has been drafted to revitalize the museum program at Stuart.

Lee Glazer and team wanted to draft a working organizing document that defines what the program is for ourselves as well as the community. It helps to define a position but now it will go to the S-H staff give it to the teachers to develop?

Requires major collaboration; Staffing ramifications

Significant grant money will be available in the future. Get a start now in partnering- set the table

Smithsonian already has "Grand Questions". Maybe we could pick one of them.

Consider exhibition space and technology needed for exhibition creation and research- consider for renovation

Think about reaching out to those who do field work- archeologists, etc.

2. Renovation of Stuart Hobson

Thursday, Mar 3 Tommy Wells and others and OPEFM will tour Stuart.

Points we will make:

Stuart should no longer wait for renovation. It is fiscally irresponsible to do the quick fix any more. Our teachers and students are entitled to the same type of working environment as central office staff.

In 2006 the original framework- capacity, usage structural integrity, curriculum- ranked very low. Every fixture was deemed obsolete. Major renovations done in other schools and not Stuart. Phase I only- 8 million. Then in 2016 they will revisit the idea.

We have reached tipping point with building.

Roof

Electrical system

HVAC system

Cabling plant

Every classroom modified to compare with other DC schools (in NW)

2 gyms

Outside facility that is middle school appropriate

We need DCPS to agree that this is necessary; for Chancellor Henderson to ask OPEFM to consider that we need this.

Peggy O'Brien:

Modernization has been under Fenty and DCPS made no decisions

3. Differentiated Instruction Strategies

M. Doherty will put together a review of various differentiated instruction strategies.

Goal is that every child is challenged and has equal resources.

C. Witt- Cluster recruitment and retention of proficient and advanced students. Brochures and literature to recruit. Want to do it right earlier than Oct. open house. How we speak about the schools. Discussion about how we refer to the schools- as one (for example- upper, lower, middle)

Cluster identification- develop a strategic plan goes deeper than the name- a coordination and collaborating among staff

M. Smith will incorporate these into the "identity project".