

LSAT Minutes
March 24, 2011

1. Ground rules/Protocols:

No more email fights- all agreed that we we won't let anything that's happening among us to escalate to personal email attacks.

Back to short agendas. Email Vince to add agenda items or just say it at meeting.

No meetings after meetings.

2. Co-chair Vacancy:

Agreement that two community members rather than staff members should be co-chairs.

Possibility of rotating co-chairs

Role is advisory

Need more parents to equal out group. To recruit more parents perhaps define profile and objective and difference between PTA. Future meeting about outreach to join LSAT

Is it an open forum? Only closed during special times like budget.

Mark Engman will be co-chair.

3. Overview of Principal Selection Process:

All other issues will depend on this most important issue.

PTA already decided who is on panel. They all know. Staff all knows. Follow up to remind about meeting.

Put out complete list of panel with contact info. Send home to families.

One more community member to be nominated but we already have 22/23.

Tuesday, March 29 at 6:30- brainstorm job description, just a panel discussion. Not sure if DCPS will be there or not.

DCPS will send standard description but they want to change it to be cluster specific. Cannot just ask any question

Determine calendar for this.

Vince Morris is running meeting and providing agenda.

4. Hobson Renovation Strategy:

C. Witt is unable to attend meeting- wants this issue to be one of LSAT's top priorities.

Thoughts/Comments:

Value in working in community to make parents aware but also to work politically. Kwame Brown agreed on our needs. Chancellor Henderson did not say that SH is one of her top priorities. Do we want to move this up on our list of priorities and brainstorm what else we can do? Does this have to be voted on as a council? Who decides if and when we get it? Who are we bumping out of that spot? We already got bumped. Can we find out other schools' situations to compare?

What's the schedule? 2012 Phase I only. Prep work for moving it up. It's more about the magnitude than the scheduled time- phase 1 is just the classrooms.

LSAT can comment on policy making but the political effort needs to come from the community/parents. How do you get the word out to the community? Does the principal have a voice in this? What about new principal candidates and asking them this during interview? What should the LSAT do? Make a task force to figure all of this out. If we are clear as an advisory team about what we are doing academically we can prove our need. Still haven't defined who we are. And this is why this is so important to get renovation now. Define vision of where we are taking this middle school.

*LSAT does not change its position on this issue. It will continue to be a priority. Advise PTA to recruit others to join a task force. LSAT's first priority right now is hiring a principal.

5. Looping PreK and K Teacher:

Be aware that this is being thought about. Developmentally, PS and PK fit well together – share same learning standards

6. Cluster Staff Preference:

Should staff kids have preference in the lottery? A few years back LSRT agreed that staff siblings should get preference but only for siblings of former/current Peabody students. The majority of cluster staff have sent their kids to the school. It is one of the few perks and independent schools do it. It would be crucial to have backing of LSAT to defend this decision to DCPS. It is worth a larger decision and getting other parents' opinions. This is another instance of an important need in new principal. LSAT should have policy by the end of the school year.

7. Sibling Status at Cluster:

Lottery issues. Can you graduate from Peabody? Can we agree to put in writing that you don't graduate until Stuart Hobson? LSAT should have policy by the end of the school year.

8. Recess policy indoor/outdoor

Disagreement about what bottom temperature children should go outside. Should LSAT say that we support the admin team's decision or should we get it from DCPS? Calculate average of 32 or lower degree days and let parents know how much of the winter their children will be inside.

All of these agenda items have been discussed and we will come back to discuss later to make policies about.

9. Future meeting topic- Maryland residents attending CHCS.

Next meeting: ????