



# Capitol Hill Cluster School

## *Where Every Child Achieves*

Peabody | Watkins | Stuart-Hobson | A DC Public School

### **LSAT Meeting Minutes Peabody Primary Campus November 12, 2019**

**LSAT Member Attendees:** : Meg Booth (Chair), Principal Comeforo, Principal Bell, AP Hollis, AP Boisvert, Finnuala Tessier, Annie Slattery, Ebon McPherson, Lauren Tate, Rachel Houghton, Kate Fiske, Tatiana Sheppard, Pamela Dickerson, Katherine Antos

Jeffrey Holmes (DCPS Chief of Elementary Schools) and approximately 10 parents.

#### **LSAT Open Business**

Meeting was recorded. Finnuala Tessier, Peabody parent representative to LSAT, donated recorder to LSAT so this and future meetings can be recorded. The recording will be available upon request after LSAT determines where the file will be stored.

#### **Shared Cluster LSAT Priorities**

Principals Comeforo and Bell agreed that a shared priority across campuses for LSAT to focus on would be writing. Two breakout groups, Peabody/Watkins and Stuart-Hobson, were created to review data on writing performance and action items that campuses and LSAT could take to support this goal. The group reconvened and shared the following findings and actions.

Peabody/Watkins:

- Observations from SY180-19 data showed 5<sup>th</sup> graders combined reading and writing scores were well above other grades. It is possible because there was a strong focus on writing last year in 5th grade and good coordination among the teacher, although other variables could be a factor. There was further discussion about 5th grade scores. Noted this year with Writer's Workshop, K-5 are all adding more rigor with writing. Actions that could extend this success to other grades were discussed.
- Suggested actions for LSAT:
  - o Build family knowledge around writing instruction and assessment, including writing types by grade level. Panther Progress great forum, as well as sending information home
  - o Share student writing with families

- Share recommended webinar or video or create one on Writer's Workshop
- Discuss implications of Writer's Workshop on homework and/or ways to practice at home
- Identify gaps and priorities around writing in the Peabody/Watkins budget, including resources for technology
- Develop LSAT survey to parents to collect data that could inform instructional work. Could be 5 questions, perhaps some on writing and some on math (after have similar LSAT meeting on math instruction)

Stuart-Hobson:

- Examined start of year assessments through equity and achievement gap lens. Gap smallest in 8<sup>th</sup> grade and largest in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Eg,
  - 6<sup>th</sup> grade: 11% black students did not attempt writing response but 0% white students did not try
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade: All students attempted response
- Possible Actions:
  - Increase student usage of Reading Plus and ALEKS, reading and math software interventions that are assigned for homework
  - Continue to run updates in the newsletter, including adding in Remind101 updates
  - Review student achievement metrics on MOY assessments (RI, i-ready, MAP, ANET) by February
    - Analyze achievement by subgroups to see if have made progress in closing gaps

### **Campus Updates and Campus Culture**

Stuart-Hobson:

- Claire Smullen won prestigious Milken Educator Award
- Stuart-Hobson recently hired another teacher from Maryland who was a Milken Award winner

Peabody/Watkins:

- AP Angry out on medical leave. Should be back in mid/late December
- Draft volunteer guide and nondisclosure agreement (NDA) for parent volunteers
  - The intent is not to end volunteers. The documents have been developed to ensure volunteers are not interrupt instruction and do not share any information that is confidential or would have a negative effect on other children or families in the Cluster
  - Principal Bell is currently seeking feedback on draft guidelines from DCPS Central Office including legal counsel, teachers, parents, school staff including security personnel, LSAT

The LSAT meeting ended at approximately 8:15 pm.