

Hearst LSAT meeting minutes

September 23, 2020

In attendance: Jen Geoffroy, Keri Sikich, Jonathan Topping, Skip Holmes, Carol Baker, Julia Krahe, Shareen Beech, Elke Chen, Beth Prince, Sarah Schiers, Dawn Gray, Emily Olesh, and Liz Stuart.

-LSAT Co-Chairs roles were proposed, accepted and voted in favor of Carol Baker (staff representative) and Keri Sikich (parent representative). The LSAT secretary role will be served by Skip Holmes.

- Moving forward, Principal Geoffroy will publicize upcoming meetings.

- Zoom – Keri will create and send out Zoom link invitations to LSAT members.

-LSAT meeting schedule – 10/21; 11/18; 12/16; 1/27; 2/10 (hold); 2/17; 3/17; 4/28; 5/19; 6/16

-20/21 Comprehensive School Plan – Principal Geoffroy presented to the group. Students will take online assessments. Nearly all kids are participating in the assessment. No PARC test this year. ISA – in seat attendance. Don't seem to be having challenging other schools are having. Other schools are having kids log in and out, go off and do something else.

- Question about diversity and inclusion goals.

- Tie Wednesday read alouds to those standards. Pull teaching tolerance to give parents Q&A (the read aloud may not have questions, school will pull out additional questions). Professional development on diversity, inclusion and belonging. Staff wanted to know how to expand this beyond staff. Want to welcome families into conversations in a way that's meaningful. Revisited and one way that came up is ...we talked about affinity groups. Does anyone have the space to do that now or do we want to let folks settle in, we could start with parent leaders and start courageous conversation training so that leaders of parent orgs participate and spread it out.
- Julia shared that diversity and inclusion is a priority for PTA – to share resources with other schools. Hard time for all.
- DCPS reallocated school security funding to pay for courageous conversations. That money should be sometime in the spring.
- Jen - DCPS does some kind of training and will link up with PTA offline.
- Parents have asked about reopen plans from mayor. Principal Geoffroy doesn't have information yet. Parents have different views. Different constituencies. Not sure where we are with viability of any plans. School leaders can survey teachers. Have option to bring back some students. We are not doing that at Hearst. We don't yet have any of the promised upgrades and updates to the building. DCPS has done none of the promised work. Principal Geoffroy is 100% supportive of staff who say not until it's safe. LSAT can support by just making sure the mayor is following through with those promised actions for a safe reopening.

- Question about metrics on what makes it safe to return to building and how to define that.
- Principal Geoffroy responded saying that builds on Liz's comments on the survey. Ask staff what measures they need in place to feel safe.
- How is it going in CES classes - 3 – 4 year olds, it's parent consult model. Doing one on one sessions with staff. K-2, whole group morning meeting and some academics. The 1-1 support, parent coaching and support. Time and labor intensive for families. We are seeing growth. CES will hopefully be the first set of kids to bring into the building.

-Virtual Learning - parent survey and teacher/staff feedback

-Construction/Trailer Updates and in-school readiness – new CES classroom is complete. Furniture is here. Will move in materials later this week. We did a trailer walk through a few weeks ago with DGS and DCPS. Bring rep from one major trailer company we use to get an understanding of whether we could bring trailers back in the double decker configuration. Feasibility question answered. Add first layer of trailer will give 3 classrooms for next school year. Following school year, another layer on top. DCPS thinks that will work. They will put out to bid to other companies! DCPS propose 6 additional classrooms, Principal Geoffroy was proposing 8.

-If we are still growing, then will see how we can expand the building.
We have enough furniture for all classrooms.

- Enrollment Update – shows us 353 projection. Right now we have 348. A couple of seats in Pre-K still open.
- Challenge in terms of numbers – overall we are on target. Lost kids in 3rd grade. That cohort is a bit smaller than anticipated. Conversation of should we call kids off waitlist.
- 3rd grade is the one grade where we didn't make projections. Some families move to private – combo of academic concerns from the spring to wanting in person instruction.
- Emily – some families heard about trailers. People do have this idea that trailers are bad. Liz – offer newer families the shared knowledge of the previous trailers being good. Messaging, growth and expansion. Message the why. Email feedback on survey.
- DGS – starting next week they will be sending contractors to do HVAC checks. Want to put survey out this weekend. Input by Friday.