

Walnut Hills High School
Local Decision Making Committee Meeting

January 16, 2020

6:00 PM

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Attendance: John Chambers, Laura Stith Deck, Jessica Smitson, Ashley Morgan, Richard Graeter, Terrance Poole, Sylvia Nelson, Judy Neff, Brad Smith, Matthew Eggers, Dillon Vorheer, Francesca Bownas-Rayburn

Visitor: Sofia Tollefson

Excused: Lisa Brokamp

Not in Attendance: Rich Coleman

- **Approval of December Minutes**
 - Clarify that the Superintendent recommended to the school board to change school start time
 - Motion to approve R. Graeter, second S. Nelson; all approve

- **Old business**
 - **Mental wellness update**
 - Meeting with Nancy Miller, 1N5 and BC2M Leaders to discuss how to utilize grant money from the Warrior Run, \$2517.00
 - Discussed possible Ted Talk type presentation by college age students focusing on specific issues that our students can relate to: anxiety, body image (eating disorders), sleep, self-care
 - Currently only two school-based therapists on site for student support. GCBH is looking to replace the third, open position.
 - PBIS committee met with Jamie Beirne, CFT rep.
 - We recommended to change the R in SOAR to stand for Resilient, instead of current Respect, that can be tied into Own your Actions.
 - The SOAR Matrix will be revised, presented to ILT for approval and presented to the staff for a vote.

 - **Entrance exam – Iowa test update**
 - Saturday, first retake session for the exam, 250 students who retook the exam; does not include the students who tested in December
 - February retest date currently 400 students enrolled
 - Walnut Hills hosting Feb. testing
 - December, January, February tests are open to CPS and non-CPS district students
 - Students who live in the district of Cincinnati Public Schools are not guaranteed a space

- **New business – Next LSDMC initiative**

- Discuss ideas for expansion via needs assessment
- Excused absences for those students who protest
- Counselors not responding to emails/requests
- Research Block Scheduling
- School Culture

- **Principal's report**
 - Registration, January 23, 7pm; February 19, 7pm; March 19, 7pm
 - In-district students only
 - Curriculum
 - ILT approved all incoming students, grades 9-12, will need to take Latin I or Greek I, starting with the 2020-2021 school year.
 - Counts as a Classics Elective course
 - High school Latin
 - ILT approved the requirement of Jr. High Health Course in 7th or 8th grade
 - Target more of the communication skills, middle school skills, stressors, and pressure
 - Lawsuit OCR Complaint in Michigan stated that websites need to be ADA compliant. The federal government issued a list of required changes and needed to be made by January 15, 2020.
 - Walnut website is private and although our website may look the same at first glance, colors were changed to support those that are color blind, "click here" changed to "read more", no more scroll on home page, and some other small changes.
 - Superintendent proposal redrawing of school boundaries.
 - Superintendent and team are redrawing district for elementary school boundaries.

- **ILT Report**
 - New procedures passed for ILT
 - Discussion around semester exams and whether or not we should allow for exam exemptions
 - Passed requirement Latin I/Greek I for all incoming 9th-12th graders starting 2020-21
 - Passed requirement Jr. High Health during 7th or 8th grade, starting with 2020-21 7th graders

- **Student Report**
 - Back from winter break
 - Optioning seems to go well, but the optioning website seems to have some problems: Engineering not on the website.
 - Science Olympiad first invitational this Saturday
 - Urinetown, February 14th (Cappie's Show)
 - Girls Basketball has started and they are doing well

- Nuthouse improved with new code of conduct; best attendance seen in a long while
- **Parent Report**
 - Parent concerned about BMI in gym classes
 - Weight is either guesstimated or student uses scale privately
 - The teacher does measure the student's height
 - A chart is provided to the students to determine their BMI, not public
 - When ordering caps and gowns, students had to check gender box versus blue or gold to differentiate between male and female; any issue see Mr. Chambers
 - 7th grade teaming is awesome. The three consecutive classes allow for teaming activities, rewards, team building. The community building is special and makes a positive impact on the 7th graders.
- **Community Report**
 - Alumni talked about building a baseball field on our current adjoining property
 - Alumni now coming and attending classes on Friday of their reunion weekends. Very well received by alumni.
 - Evanston Academy, Stacey Hill Simmons, Administrator of the Year
 - Laura reached out to Debbie Heldman regarding LSDMC assisting with the Walnut Hills 125 year anniversary celebration. Debbie will share information with LSDMC.
- **Other Business**
 - a. 2019-2020 Districtwide LSDMC Meeting Schedule (6-7:30p - **Meetings are located at the CPS Education Center in the Mayerson Banquet Room – 2651 Burnet Avenue.**
 - Wed 3/4/2020 – All current LSDMC members
 - Wed 4/22/2020 – All current LSDMC members
 - b. Other?
- **Next meeting** – Thursday, February 13 at 6p
- **Adjournment**
 - J. Chambers motion to adjourn, seconded by S. Nelson
 - Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm