

## Walnut Hills High School

### LSDMC Minutes for February 26, 2015

In Attendance: Jeff Brokamp, Amy Kappers, Andy Kolesar, Brian Sweeney, Jeff Lazar, Mitch Perdrix, Jo Baldwin, Tracy Mason, Amira Mesmer, Steve Baker, Elena Miyasato, Felicia Williams, and Sally Thurman.

1. January Minutes. Tracy Mason moved for approval of the January meeting minutes. A motion was made and seconded by Jeff Brokamp. All in favor. Minutes approved.
2. Proposal by Adam Sella. The committee received a compelling Powerpoint presentation by Adam regarding Walnut Hills High School offering Arabic as a course of study. Adam provided data and statistics showing the increasing need for a Middle Eastern language due to the US government stating individuals who have the ability to speak Arabic are in high demand with a low supply. Adam brought to light that there is not one high school in the city which offers Arabic at this time. It was motioned and seconded that Adam be given the appropriate process for further exploring this language as an option.
3. Student's Report. Elena Miyasato provided the student's report. She shared what the Student Congress was doing to ensure student participation in Walnutfest. Student leadership created an "Aspiration Board" for students in grades 7-12 to communicate their individual dreams and goals. These boards will be on display at Walnutfest. In addition to the boards, Student Congress has been busy with creating a basket for the silent auction. The next item shared was the work and creation of a theme for Prom, "Classic Mystique". Elena shared that the next meeting will focus on long range planning as Walnut Hill's internal/external review occurs next school year. Furthermore, election packets for next year are being constructed in order to gain enthusiasm for the upcoming school year. The last item shared was the student leadership is committed to obtaining up-to-date information about present clubs in order to ensure correct information is provided to the school community.
4. Enrollment Proposal. The committee received a follow up report from Mr. Brokamp regarding the LSDMC's subcommittee's proposal to Dr. Lofton. Assistant Superintendent Lofton was receptive and shared the proposal with the Superintendent. The Superintendent had concerns with various parts, and Mr. Brokamp met with her to provide further explanation. The results are as follows:
  - A. 2012-2016
    - Adhere to registration dates and rules by which April 23, 2015 is the last registration that guarantees enrollment. However on May 9th, there is one final test date when all in district students that pass will be able to enroll during an early June registration. The Superintendent requested that final registration dates would be properly advertised to the community. Additionally, it was agreed if the testing dates were moved up, having an earlier deadline would be feasible.

- In-district/out of district moves are up to school administration.

## B. 2016-2017

- Change the entry composite to a minimum of at least 70 percentile on both ELA and Math.

Additional information shared: A proposal was made to set guidelines and limits for retesting as well as taking score into consideration were not approved by the Superintendent. There is legislation prohibiting this practice. There is still “probationary enrollment” for those students moving into the district who have testing data from nationally normed standardized tests well-aligned to the Terra Nova. Amy Kappers requested that clear communication be distributed in a manner to reach all stakeholders concerned about overpopulation.

5. Testing. Over the course of the next month, our school has either conducted or will be conducting the following testing: OTELA (English as Second Language), NLE (National Latin Exam), PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) for Grades 7-9 which focus on English Language Arts and Mathematics. Physical Science Assessment will be given exclusively to 8th graders and a US History exam to 10th graders. Also in March, all 10th Graders will be taking the OGT (Ohio Graduation Test) on March 16th-20th in the areas of Reading, Mathematics, Writing, Science, and Social Studies. This is the last year that passing all five parts of this test will be a requirement for graduation. Going forward, EOC (End of Course exams) will be given to students. They must accumulate a minimum of 18 points to graduate with a diploma. Questions were answered by Mr. Brokamp’s report as well as a discussion regarding the importance of keyboarding for test readiness. Amy Kappers asked that more comprehensive information is shared to the many concerns/questions arising from these new state assessments.

6. AdvancED. During the 2015-2016 school year, we are due for a review for reaccreditation. The following steps were suggested by Bill Kern:

- Schedule the review dates-suggest the review be held at a time when classroom learning is at a regular pace (not during state testing or exams.)
- Review the top two action items from the last AdvancED visit. These are the two required actions prior to the next review.
- Write the “School Profile”
- The Principal creates an updated “Executive Summary.”
- New mission statement must be uploaded.
- Self Assessment of the five standards must be carryout and include all stakeholder groups.
- Conduct Surveys to staff, students and parents (60% staff, 40% students, and 20% parents.)

- Complete the various “Diagnostics”

\*Instructions and further information are provided on the AdvancED Assist website, Penny McKinley is a great resource in the state office @ 1-888-413-3669 ext 5648.

7. Principal Report. Mr. Brokamp shared the notion of identifying Pathways (state initiative) for our students via the Course Catalogue. He explained the importance of pulling courses that channel student interest as we are a liberal arts/classical college preparatory high school.

8. Other Business. Mr. Brokamp shared information regarding his intent to be committed to Walnut Hills High School’s principalship, and he will give an ample amount of time (school year) to allow for a thorough and appropriate search for a new principal. Kudos were given to the many successes of Walnut’s JETS, Robotics and Mock Trial teams for placing in their various competitions.

*Respectfully submitted by Sally Thurman.*