

Walnut Hills High School
Local Decision Making Committee Meeting

November 19, 2015

5:30 PM

Minutes

Attendees

The following LSDMC members were in attendance: Mitch Perdrix, Jeff Lazar, Brian Sweeney, Amira Mesmer, Emily Bond, Denise Beauchamp, Jeff Brokamp and Steve Baker. Guests included Bill Kerr (AdvancEd) and Kathy Restle (new 7th/8th grade assistant principal). Emily Bond acted as Recorder for the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Denise Beauchamp moved that the minutes for the October 22, 2015 LSDMC meeting be approved. Brian Sweeney seconded. The minutes were approved.

Accreditation

Kathy Restle and Bill Kerr spoke about the AdvanceEd visits and preparation for such. Kathy shared the following:

- Walnut Hills gets accredited every 5 years and we are in the self assessment phase now. The five standards the team is looking at are Purpose, Governing, Teaching, Resources, and Continuous Improvement.
- The staff will be working on this during all the professional development days this year.
- The involvement of staff has been great.
- The deadlines are: Jan. 18-paperwork must be submitted; Feb 16-18 the team will be on campus at which time they will visit 80% of the classrooms and interview members of the Walnut Hills Association (parents), the students, and faculty.
- The most valuable outcome in this accreditation is the process. Continuous improvement is what it is all about and the accreditation is the by product of it. It will be helpful to determine how Walnut Hills can be improved and how we stack up against the five standards.

Bill shared the following:

- He thanked the faculty for their time and said Advance Ed is appreciative of this.
- There are eight team members coming. The group is made up of teachers from other schools and professors at local universities.
- LSDMC's role is a) to ensure stakeholder involvement b) to help facilitate the interviewing process of our parent group and ensuring community partnership c) to lend assistance to the internal team.

Principal's Report

Jeff gave an update on the enrollment process. The last Thursday in March will be the last date to enroll in Walnut Hills. Mary Ronan will announce this. The last testing date will be in February. The only way to enroll after that is if someone moves into the district. Those individuals would be allowed into Walnut Hills on a probationary basis. Their academic standing would determine if they are able to stay on for the following year. The band's Paris trip is being reviewed in light of the recent terrorist attacks.

News from the ILT: The Classics department will offer AA Latin and will be reevaluating the Latin program to engage kids earlier with Modern Languages along side Latin in the 7th grade. Club functioning and Schedule E are both being evaluated.

Student's Report

Amira reported that the student council is planning to host a dessert and talent show on November 24th. At that time they would like to have a special send off for Ron, the custodian who is retiring in December.

Evanston Community Report

There was no Evanston Community Report.

Other Business

Steve asked that members identify topics for future LSDMC meetings. Steve wondered if Debbie Heldman, from the Alumni Foundation could discuss new initiatives with us. There being no other business, Jeff Brokamp made a motion to adjourn and John seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 PM. The next LSDMC meeting will be January 21st at 7pm.