

WALNUT HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

LOCAL SCHOOL DECISION MAKING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 15, 2018

7:00pm

Minutes

Attendees:

Beth Ormsby, Kathy Restle, Laura Stith Deck, Mitch Perdrix, Steve Baker, Ayn Spieser, John Chambers, Nuha Syed, Terrance Poole

Minutes:

Minutes for the last meeting were not available yet.

Principal Search:

Steve Baker reported that the recommendation by the LSDMC of John Chambers as Principal of WHHS was not on the February CPS board agenda due to the board hearing a proposal by FC Cincinnati, which will take up the majority of their board meeting. Discussion ensued about whether the LSDMC needed to wait to announce the recommendation of John Chambers. A motion was made for Stephen Baker to craft a letter announcing its recommendation of John Chambers as Principal of Walnut Hills High School to be distributed to all stakeholders (Motion: Mitch Perdrix, Second: Beth Ormsby). The motion unanimously passed. Steve will craft the letter then send to the LSDMC for approval prior to release.

Teacher Report:

Mitch Perdrix reported that the ILT would like for the LSDMC to create a vision statement for them to edit. This will be added to the March agenda. John will bring some samples of vision statements to the next meeting.

Chair Report:

Steve asked if there was any movement on a change in start time and school administration replied that there was not. Steve reported that LSDMC chairs are

coming together to be more of a united force and that this might be a good way to get movement on this idea as it will likely take all the schools looking at it at the same time to effect change. John reported there was a high cost for Metro to make changes to start time. Steve will report back on whether the LSDMC chairs will take this on.

Principal Report:

John will have the budget available for review by the March meeting. LSDMC can discuss the non-teaching positions.

John discussion the current status on enrollment for next year. The 1st enrollment date was down approximately 30 students from last year (420 to 390). He stated the last offering for the SCPF was this past Saturday and over 500 took it. Of the students who have passed the test this year, about 40 would not have been admitted if 70 was required on both sections. Discussion was held on some of the “loopholes” students use to get into WHHS. The subject of Latin, which is at the core of WHHS’s classical education, may be able to be utilized as a gatekeeper. Some students choose to enroll in 9th grade to avoid Latin. Others enroll in 7th grade, do poorly in Latin, leave for 8th grade, only to return in 9th grade when they would no longer be required to take Latin. An idea is to require 2 years of Latin even if coming to WHHS as a 9th grader or above. There was overall positive response to this idea. LSDMC will discuss further in March.

84 Cum Laude initiated were tapped. Cum Laude must be less than 20% of the class.

John reported that a WHHS 7th grade student was hit by a car on Montana this morning and was in critical condition.

John reported that the ILT has added an 8th grade math course for student not ready for Algebra 1. This initiative is being done by the entire district due to poor end-of-course test grades for Algebra 1. Even WHHS students were not

performing on the Algebra 1 end-of-course test as well as WHHS students typically do.

The performing cheer team finished 2nd in their division at Nationals.

Mental Health: WHHS will have a viewing of the movie “The S Word” focusing on reducing the stigma surrounding the discussion of suicide in March. John reported that the target audience for this movie is parents. Laura shared that her agency is sponsoring a movie called “Suicide: The Ripple Effect” in March at AMC movie theater in Newport that is open to the public.

There was no other business so Beth Ormsby moved that we adjourn at 8:10pm. It was seconded by Mitch Perdrix and the meeting was adjourned with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,
Laura Stith Deck