

Walnut Hills High School
Local Decision Making Committee Meeting
March 13, 2019
6:00PM
Draft Meeting Minutes

Attendees: John Chambers, Laura Stith Deck, Ashley Thomas Morgan, Francesca Bownas-Rayburn, Esme Wright, Zuri Williams, Jessica Smitson, Sylvia Nelson, Lisa Brokamp, and Richard Graeter

1. Approval of January minutes

- Motion to approve: J. Chambers, seconded by Bownas-Rayburn

2. Old business

- Mental health update
 - Reviewing current and proposed mental health supports
 - Bring Change 2 Mind
 - Students stated there is a lack of information: What services are available, Who provides the services, and Where to go for the services
 - Requested a posting that includes people and places of support and avenues to seek help.
 - Chatterbox Volume CXIII, Issue 10 listed information about mental health supports
 - We plan to add information to our website
 - There have been more announcements dedicated to mental health awareness
 - Ashley Thomas-Morgan is creating a schoolology page that will include pictures of the counselors, mental health support personnel and administrators. In addition to pictures the plan is to include some fun biographical facts for each person listed. The schoolology page will also include resources available.
 - Laura commented that their concerns mirror those discussed at LSDMC last month, especially regarding a central location on where to find mental health resources
 - Rich Graeter inquired about a Counseling Gate Keeper
 - A request has been made at the district for an additional in-house mental health support person, like Susan Flowers.
 - We also qualify for a third GCBH counselor, but we are lacking in physical building space to support additional personnel
 - Students have been meeting to discuss opportunities and one suggestion is to create mindfulness rooms with specific teachers during their study hall period/session. These would operate on a volunteer basis (teachers would choose to have a mindfulness room versus regular study hall room) for teachers who would like to provide a quiet, safe place for students to meet during their study halls.
- Class rank -
 - Carmel (IN)
 - Utilizes a Distinguished Grad Program Matrix, which assigns point values to a variety of academic, extracurricular, and community service achievements/experiences.
 - Distinguished Grad is offered to the top 100 students (~1000 students in graduating class)

- Group was interested in the concept of Distinguished Grad program. However, 100 is a lot of students to recognize. Cum Laude is top 20% of class. Recommended to look at graduating classes of 2018 and 2019 to see how many students would earn distinguished recognition, to see how it shakes out.
- Committee looked at categories used. After much discussion, committee determined we would like to categorize points as Academic (60%) and Service/Extracurricular (40%).
- Committee given homework to email their ideas on what would be included in each category to Ashley Thomas Morgan by April 11.

3. New business

- Positive school culture and behavioral supports
 - 3 groups: School Pride, Whole Student, and Discipline
 - Positive Behavioral Intervention Supports (PBIS) is a plan to reward students more for their positive behaviors; using teachable moments.
 - PBIS is a state mandated initiative
 - We currently have many pieces included in the student handbook, but are in the process of pulling it all together under the title of PBIS.
 - At most recent Parent meeting the message was that school is not fun anymore. School pride has fizzled.
 - We need to change the mentality.

4. Principal's Report

- Student Recognition will go out in a Press Release next week:
 - 22 National Merit Finalists (highest number of students in recent history, previous was 17 students)
 - 10 students scored perfect on the ACT (2 juniors and 8 seniors)
 - JCL students fared well at State Competition with 5 top winners out of 6 categories.
 - Swimmers made it to state
 - Girls basketball district champs

5. ILT Report – no report

6. Student Report

- Eagle Buddies program to pilot 4th quarter
 - 117 responses 50+% juniors and 40% seniors completed mentor polls which collected athletics, clubs, and interests to match up with a 7th grader.
 - Girls who Code will match study halls.
 - Students will meet 1x week: Start off with a high and low of the week and then start conversation
 - Incoming 7th graders matched with current 10-11th graders over summer to pair up for walk the schedule
 - Video with mentors – will be played in all 7th grade classes on Tuesday, 03/19/19
- Prom - April 13 at Cintas Center Starry Night - we have hired an entertainment company for decorations.

7. Community Report

- None

8. Parent Report

- General sentiment from the Association meeting was that parents were disappointed about decision to delay removal of class rank until % 2021; would prefer 2020.
- Inquiry about a later start time; it will take approximately \$50,000,000 to make a deal with Metro that would allow for later start times in the high schools.

- Important to think about equity and access when reviewing the proposal

9. Other

- Two years ago LSDMC supported a potential later start time, with the understanding that extracurriculars and cost needed to be explored prior to further discussion
 - Ashley will email Gilda (parent rep for late start time) to attend our next LSDMC meeting; to be added as an agenda item
- Laura shared information from District LSDMC meeting
 - discussed Parent Engagement Policy
 - discussed budgeting process
 - discussed Health and Wellness: all CPS elementary and secondary schools will require 140 minutes of physical activity per student per week (K-12).
 - Discussed bullying and CPS kindness initiative
- Community of Kindness
 - Bullying has risen through social media and the online platforms
 - Tie intermittent acts of kindness into the school day
 - WHHS is in the beginning stages of a Kindness Matters campaign with a couple of different clubs with a local sponsor, Molly Wellmann
- Laura received information about the purpose of the LSDMC and ILT committees meeting together. District stated it was to review a school's OnePlan at the beginning of the school year. Walnut uses a Long Range Plan in place of a OnePlan. Laura suggested the committees have a joint meeting at the beginning of the year (2019-2020) to review the LRP. Committee was in agreement
 - Long Range Plan is the task of the AdvancEd Committee
- Submit ideas for Distinguished Grad program to Ashley by April 11, 2019
- 2018-2019 District wide LSDMC Meeting Schedule
 - Wednesday, 4/24/2019 6-7:30pm
- Next WHHS LSDMC meeting: Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 6pm

10. Adjournment 7:25 pm

- Motion for adjournment made by Ashley Morgan. Seconded by John Chambers.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Smitson