

**Walnut Hills High School  
LSDMC Committee  
Minutes  
May 20, 2021  
6:00PM**

**Attendance:** John Chambers, Ashley Morgan, Jessica Smitson, Francesca Bownas-Rayburn, Judy Neff, Sylvia Nelson, Laura Stith Deck, Lisa Brokamp, Monica Mitchell (joined at 6:40p)

**Not in Attendance:** Richard Graeter, Brad Smith, Dillon Vorherr, Terrance Poole, Melanie Mitchell

**Guest:** Kathy Restle

- **Call to order (we did not meet a quorum at this meeting)**
- **Approval of Prior Meeting's Minutes**
  - No quorum so unable to approve April minutes
- **Old Business**
  - **Enrollment 2021-22: 2870**
    - Opportunity to add students through open enrollment (in the 7th grade)
      - Grades 9-12 are full, only a couple of spots in grade 8
    - Waiting list for high school (27 in-district, additional out of district HS students)
      - Provides us with insight and an idea of how many high school students will be added to each grade level.
      - If over a certain number, by board policy, we would need to ask open enrollment students to leave to make space for in-district students.
        - a. We cannot deny CPS in-district students access to a spot at Walnut.
    - April testing session (40 students) will be able to register for next year.
    - 7th grade 370+ for 2021-22
      - Max of 540 with teaming, but 450 is our current max
  - **Covid-19 Pandemic and school opening**
    - We have not received any detailed information about what school will look like in the fall
- **New Business**
  - **Need to populate the LSDMC committee for next year.**
    - Non-teaching staff: Jessica and Ashley will return. Term limits end next year, May 2022.
    - Judy Neff (no longer a current parent after this year) and Sylvia Nelson term limits end this year
    - Monica Mitchell stepping down and not returning next year due to difficulty attending;; not completing her second year of her second term
      - Sylvia Nelson will fill unexpired term for Monica Mitchell. She was filling an unexpired term, so by filling Monica's position, she will not exceed 4 consecutive years of serving.

- Have any parents been selected as LSDMC reps to replace exiting parents?
      - a. Judy will reach out to Amanda Adkins for information
  - LSDMC faculty representative will be voted on May 28, all three teachers are up for re-election (whomever is interested in running)
  - Community Reps - Richard Graeter expressed to Laura via email that he will not continue on the committee next year and his position will need to be filled. John will reach out to Terrance for his plans next year.
- **Kathy Restle to introduce the Long Range Plan**
  - WHHS has a long-standing committee to the long range plan and accreditation.
    - Priorly known as AdvancEd and currently Cognia, but we've renamed it to represent what it is: The Continuous Improvement Committee
    - Subcommittee of ILT; includes all administrators and a representative teacher from all departments
  - The prior Long Range Plan expired in 2019
  - The team met and it was decided that many of the goals were part of Walnut Hills and we weren't yet ready to let them all go and identified that we had not maximized these goals, so for many of them we just added "continue" in front of the previous goal
  - Last year we brainstormed BIG ideas for Walnut's future
    - Input from the faculty, discussed as a committee, took back to departments and came up with strategic directions, more of a 5 year plan where the Long Range Plan is a 10 year plan
  - **Strategic Plans**
    - Walnut as a regional AP center for teachers to learn best practices and professional development for a successful AP program
    - Walnut CLC needs to be something that works with our current space and still engage the community
      - a. Teaching and learning in the community: adult learning classes, technology classes, ESL classes
    - Walnut Hills Schedule to maximize instruction and student engagement
      - a. We tested out block schedule this year due to COVID
      - b. Ultimately the ILT decided on a 7 bell schedule and an additional time for lunch, all bells and lunch are 46 minutes
    - Classical Education
      - a. Commit to our classic roots and expand that to a global perspective, well informed on the past, but fully prepared for the future including global citizenship
      - b. Strong presentation, speaking skills
    - Facilities and focus on enrollment needs
      - a. This is more of a district decision and may fall off as a strategic plan
  - SMART goals will be written on each of these goals

- Cognia Engagement Visit next year; they review our data and how it is used to drive our instruction, helps us to see where we place with schools in our same caliber.
      - Our visit is scheduled for February 16-18
    - Looking for LSDMC endorsement of the plan
      - We'd like to have parent and student participation
      - Judy Neff is going to reach out to Amanda Adkins, PA President, to reach out for 2-3 parent volunteers to join the committee
      - No quorum, so committee will put this on agenda for September meeting. Kathy Restle will return to explain what is needed from the LSDMC.
  - **Implementation of the Anti-Racism group at Walnut**
    - In CPS policy is this statement: · An ongoing school site committee in each school regarding anti-racism efforts and accountability should be a subset of the LSDMC that includes students, employees, administration, families and community members. This committee's work must also be a part of each school's One Plan or equivalent.
    - LSDMC needs to identify this subset.
    - Administration to set up meeting with Lisa Brokamp to discuss how we can get Black Culture Club (BCC) involved
    - Talk as a group to come up with a plan on how to create our student task force, our parent group, faculty group, and how we can focus on creating a more inclusive atmosphere for all students and stakeholders.
  - **Please check and submit your LSDMC Review for this school year - email sent 4/29/2021**
- **Principal's report**
  - Wrapping up AP testing
    - We've been using the Graduate Building at UC in the Ballroom
  - On Tuesday we had a student led protest for the unfair treatment of Palestine
  - Senior events started Tuesday with Senior Awards night
    - Students were in person and families viewed through live streaming
  - Academic signing and senior send off on Wednesday
    - Students were in person and families viewed through live streaming
  - Graduation at Fifth Third at 6:30pm
    - Due to COVID restrictions (per UC) graduates are limited to 2 tickets per student
  - We are looking at altering our master schedule to include 4 lunches and talking about a second space to use for eating lunch
    - We've discussed modular units and a bubble over the tennis courts (same as UC)
      - The bubble would be permanent and include lighting, HVAC
      - The space would be used as temporary lunch space and after expansion we could have an indoor tennis facility
  - Expansion will happen.
    - Classrooms and cafeteria
    - No decision made as to where to make the expansion will be on campus

- Thank you to the Parent Association for the Teacher Appreciation recognition!
- **ILT Report** (Brad Smith not in attendance)
  - Schedule was approved: 7 bells with a lunch (4 lunches) all classes and lunch @46 minutes
- **Student Report** (students not in attendance)
  - Not present
- **Parent Report**
  - Judy Neff
    - Each school must have a racial equity group, which operates as a subset of the LSDMC
    - Anti-racist subcommittee will be in line with our Long Range Plan
      - We need a group of stakeholders: administrators, faculty, students, parents, who will participate in the subset to represent the Anti-Racist subcommittee
    - Get any interested parents and students who are interested in the anti-racism group to join in the committee as well. There is a group of alum that are interested in working with Walnut Administration, parents, and students to create a culture of racial equity
    - Thank you for everything! Watching the Senior Awards from my couch was great! The choir concert last night in the back circle was just breathtaking!
  - Monica Mitchell
    - Thank you to the teachers and leaders for being flexible to make this school year a success
  - Sylvia Nelson
    - Do you have any predictions for the test for next year?
      - The lowered entrance score is supposed to be for this year only
      - Of 123 students who qualified, only 13 were students of color
    - Thank you to everyone for making the return to school feel like school! It's hard to believe we are already done.
- **Community Report**
  - none
- **Other Business**
  - Superintendent Laura Mitchell resigned her position last week
    - The school board will announce her interim replacement next week
    - Typically an interim finishes out the school year, but this late in the school year it may be that the interim is named for a longer period of time.
    - No concerns for Walnut Hills at this time
  - Laura thanked the outgoing LSDMC members for their commitment to the committee as it is truly a labor of love
- **Adjournment 7:24pm**
  - Motion John Chambers, seconded by Jessica Smitson
- **Reconvene September 16, 2021**