Miner Elementary School LSAT

16 January 2018 - MEETING MINUTES -

LSAT members

Parents: Tammy Alexander (co-chair) Teachers: Shamayne Coles (co-chair)*

Shantal Hill Marsha Harris
Hill Thomas Kamilah Thorne
Andrew Whitehead (secretary) Monica Woodard

David Treat (PTO rep) Tiffany Brown (WTU rep)

Community rep(s): Kathleen Jackson Staff: Charlene Stapleton

* Not present

Principal for SY 2017-18 - Status

 Results of 10 Jan staff meeting: 95% in attendance supported Principal Jackson transitioning from interim to permanent principal; School Chapter Advisory Committee (SCAC) to send separate letter of support to DCPS

- LSAT to circulate letter of support for Principal Jackson for LSAT review
- PTO to send separate letter of support
- Update: all three letters delivered to Mr. Hughes at DCPS on 1 Feb

Budget for SY 2018-19

Review of priorities

- o LSAT planning for forum to present options for special curriculum to Miner community, to be followed by survey to gauge community interest in each option
- o Miner administration reached out to DCPS to explore feasibility of each option, consider additional options, identify stakeholders/experts to present on each option at the forum
- Not all options will be feasible in the next school year—language immersion would begin
 after next year, take several years to phase in
- o priorities: reading & math, climate & culture, identifying special curriculum; other considerations: class size, community school model, attendance

Budget projections / discussion

- Best case scenario for next year is budget neutrality—a sustained level of funding, with no decreases
- o Miner's STEM special curriculum is represented in the budget by one teacher's salary
- Enrollment expected to reach ~370 next year, with additional enrollments in Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st grade
- Miner will need additional Pre-K class, probably will need to add a third kindergarten class (teacher + aid) and additional 1st grade teacher
- o If DCPS does not budget Miner for additional staff positions, then these additional classrooms will come out of existing budget
- o If Miner faces a budget limitation, DCPS can wave class size limits, for up to 30 students per class in grades 3-5
- Unclear about status of at-risk funding or its use—LSAT to review DCPS audit of eight schools, including Miner, to better understand use of at-risk funds

- o LSAT could consider: looking for supplemental funds through business partnerships or through funding a community school coordinator, who could then focus on fundraising
 - LSAT could renew funding for Parent Coordinator position, which could assume the duties of a Community School Coordinator—a permanent administration could help keep position aligned with intended use. But unclear if this position is a good fit either.
- o Over 95% of Miner's budget represented by staff salaries
- o Additional constraint: Miner must fund six specials teacher positions

• Timetable for Budget Discussions

- LSAT will receive DCPS proposed budget in mid-February; response is due to DCPS by 2 March at 5 pm
- LSAT agreed to add additional meeting on Thursday, 15 February, to discuss the budget—meeting will start as an open session but switch to executive session for 2nd half
- o LSAT will hold a follow-up meeting on 20 February to finalize budget proposal

CSP status report (Comprehensive School plan)

- Middle-of-year data coming in, with 5th graders making big gains over last year—a high percentage are reaching their end-of-year goals already, compared to none last year
- Miner will expand use of Lexia to pre-K classes

PTO Check-In

• PTO has received a new grant to expand the ECE playground and integrate it into the garden, in partnership with Riversmart

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, February 15, 2018, 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Large Group Instruction Room