

Miner Elementary School LSAT
LSAT Meetings: May 10, 2021 - 5:00 pm
Meeting Minutes

The meeting came to order at 5:03pm. The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Introductions:

The following members were present:

- Parent Representatives
 - Marissa Gunn (K parent)
 - LaToya McCarthy-Scott (K parent)
 - David Treat (3rd and K parent)
 - Bernadette Wittschen (2nd and PK4 parent) – Co-Chair
- Parent Organization Representative – Julie Muir (1st and PK4 parent)
- Teacher Representatives
 - Ms. Coles (Instructional Coach)
 - Ms. Halley (3-5 SPED)
 - Mr. Yoho (K) – Co-Chair
- WTU Representative: Mr. Martin (2nd)
- Staff Representative: Ms. Loving (ECE Paraprofessional)
- Community Representatives
 - Nikki Wiggins

Additional Funding Discussion:

- We received an additional \$187,545 for our school budget
- We have requested additional funding on top of that to fund a 3rd social worker (not likely)
- 3 priorities from previous budget discussions:
 - Additional instruction support (specifically for rising 4th and 2nd grades)
 - 4th grade cohort has additional need
 - 2nd grade is slated to be over classroom capacity
 - SEL Support
 - Family/Community Involvement (community school grant is up at the end of the year – the hope is that OSSE will renew it, but that’s not guaranteed)
- We do have an additional \$306K for non-personnel spending (for example the Summer Acceleration Academy will be funded by this money)
- Suggestions from admin:
 - Support for ECE since it’s no longer funded by the HeadStart grant
 - 2nd interventionist position
 - Aide for 4th or 2nd grade
 - Aide for interventionist
 - Critical need: some SPED evaluations weren’t completed so moving psychologist to a 12 month role could help this
 - Unknown how this would affect our current school psychologists as we currently have two ½ time people in this role
 - Concerns that this is a district-wide issue that DCPS may (should) find a solution for
 - This would be a small ask, under \$14K
 - DBH continues their caseload over the summer
 - There is a possibility that we will receive a City Year team (7 additional adults to serve as classroom aides or in a similar capacity). This is NOT guaranteed but it is a possibility.
 - Literacy Lab is likely to no longer be used in ECE; instead we will add additional support in K-3 so there is a full case-load per grade instead of splitting.
- Suggestions from LSAT members/community:
 - Use funds to “save” an excessed position, which includes:
 - Admin aide
 - 3 SPED aides (2 being excessed due to DCPS removing autism programming from Miner)

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- 2 SPED teachers (1 being excessed due to DCPS removing autism programming from Miner; one being excessed due to DCPS no longer funding the ELS program)
- 1 Urban Teacher (this is a 1 year program anyway – next year this teacher position will become an aide position instead)
- There will be funding for extracurricular activities, though some will come from community school and some from PTO
- Rising 1st grade could benefit from math intervention (general note about math intervention is that math support is lacking as compared to what is available for reading support)
- There's a need for SMART Boards in all grades
 - If that's not part of this budget, we could consider a PTO fundraiser for them
 - We likely need a complete tech overview to determine what is needed schoolwide
- Suggestion for a Reading Specialist
- Support for the additional aide for rising 4th and/or 2nd grades
- Desire to hear from SEL team (none are on the call; admin will reach out and get back to LSAT)
- In the event that we return to a virtual setting next year, it was suggested that we consider funding Nearpod or the equivalent

PTO Update:

- Nomination forms to run for LSAT Parent Rep/PTO Executive Board are due May 17 at 5pm
- So far only one person is running for LSAT Parent Rep

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, June 15 at 5pm
 - We may need to meet again before this budget is due; admin will keep us posted
 - Newly elected LSAT Parent Reps will be invited/encouraged to attend June 15 meeting (though they will not be able to vote yet as their term does not begin until July 1)

Meeting adjourned at 6:07pm.