

Miner Elementary School LSAT

LSAT Meetings: June 15, 2021 - 5:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

The meeting came to order at 5:05pm. The meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Introductions:

The following members were present:

- Parent Representatives
 - 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)
 - Ms. Hillenbrand (5th)
 - Mr. Yoho (K) – Co-Chair
- WTU Representative: Mr. Martin (2nd)
- Community Representatives
 - Josh Gillerman

Analysis of End of Year Data in Relation to CSP Goals:

- District data not yet available (next week)
- CSP due in late summer so new Principal will help create it
- Data is likely to show we have been stagnant this year
 - No decline but unfortunately no increase either
 - Pandemic can be blamed for some of this
 - Some bright spots
 - Some of our planning for next year (i.e., acceleration, remediation) should help this going forward
- Next Principal will have current administration's analysis
- Priorities Principal Jackson leaves behind:
 - Feedback on race/equity
 - Continue with Kindred?
 - Race/equity as it relates to staff in the building (school equity team)
 - Community School grant ends – new Principal will have to sign off on reapplication process
 - Focus on instruction
 - Aides
 - Reading materials
 - Interventionists
 - Request for City Year was approved!
 - There is a financial obligation – this could likely come out of the ESSA2 funds (additional \$305K, currently being used only for summer acceleration academy)
 - LSAT and new Principal will likely need to meet this summer to discuss (Principal Jackson will meet with new Principal regardless of when she/he is hired to share this and other suggestions/analysis for SY21-22)
- Questions
 - LSAT's role in CSP: going forward will it continue to be more and more collaborative? *This depends on the new Principal, but hopefully yes.*
 - Literacy Lab – will this come back to Miner next year? *We were approved but the final decision will be up to the new Principal (like City Year this would be funding via the ESSA2 funds)*
 - Would we wait until the community school grant is approved to pursue a 4th year contract with Kindred since it was paid for out of that grant? *Admin has already begun discussions with Kindred to see what a 4th year plan would look like (including cost).*

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- Data stagnation – is this consistent district (or cluster) wide? *Schools in the cluster will meet once the data is available but it sounds like each school has had some challenges/common trends. There have been some schools with bright spots and there will be discussions surrounding what led to them/how others can achieve them.*

Technology Update:

- All students in grades 3-12 will have their own device in the classroom next year (1:1)
- For students in PreK-2nd grade the ratio will be 3:1 (this is currently the K-2 ratio so adds devices for PreK)
- Almost all teachers will be getting new devices (this will depend on life of current device)
- DCPS also plans to bring Smart Boards into classrooms (in fact they have already measured)

Acknowledge/Celebrate LSAT Successes:

- Communications during the pandemic have been excellent
- Budget meeting was shorter this year!
- Better budget allocation this year
- Enrollment has increased by over 100 students over the last 4 years
- Attendance at meetings all year has been incredible, even into June
- Personnel questions answered:
 - STEM teacher has been hired (will teach at least 2 specials)
 - 2 new homerooms (1st and 3rd)
 - Interventionists for math and reading
 - Decision around City Year will determine where aides should be placed

Goals/Ideas Not Realized This Year for Next LSAT to Continue:

- Mission and vision work (hopefully something that can be completed by the end of year 1 for new Principal)
- Equity Work – put it at the forefront of decision-making
 - Idea for dialogue groups and DCPS equity training with LSAT, PTO Leaders, Equity Team Facilitators, and School Administration
 - Consider teaming with Flamboyan for staff training
 - School would be financially responsible
 - We need to be a target school for Flamboyan to accept us (last time we tried, they were focused on middle schools)
 - This work will need to be a top priority—the entire school community needs to be invested in the work
- Question for Principal Jackson: What would you have liked to accomplish that you didn't?
 - Biggest regret: in year 1 we moved several students up from “far below” grade level, but that wasn't replicated in subsequent years
 - Mindset/alignment: we didn't move everyone in the same direction with respect to our kids and their needs
 - We made great strides in some areas (such as family engagement)
 - He wishes he had set a higher bar in year 1. Since he focused on what DCPS wanted (which didn't include instruction), it was hard to move the bar up in the following years.
 - Hopes that we take advantage of the pandemic causing students to be away from school for so long: now is the time to change what school looks and feels like

PTO Update:

- Community Day June 26, 12-2pm!
- PTO and LSAT Elections were held. Welcome to our new leadership:
 - PTO: same current Executive Board with additions of Treasurer (Abby McGill) and two additional Teacher Reps (Ms. Coles and Ms. Hayes)

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- LSAT Parent Reps: Latoya McCarthy-Scott and David Treat are returning and will be joined by Andrea Jones and Allison Mitchell
- LSAT Teacher Reps: Ms. Hillenbrand and Mr. Yoho are returning and will be joined by Ms. Scott and Ms. Y. Jones
- Mr. Martin will return as WTU Rep
- Julie Muir will return as PTO Rep
- Community Reps (along with Chair and Secretary) will be elected in the summer/fall

Farewell to Principal Jackson: *Thank you for being a fierce advocate for our students and great partner for the last 4 years. We wish you luck in Tampa!*

Next Meeting: *This was our final meeting. The new LSAT will begin meeting in September unless a summer meeting is necessary.*

Meeting adjourned at 6:09pm.