

Miner Elementary School LSAT
LSAT Meeting Notes 02/07/24

Meeting began at 6:06 and took place in person at Miner ES.

Attendance:

- Parent Reps: Julie Muir, Andrea Jones, Nick Kushner
- Teacher Reps: Mr. Yoho, Ms. Hillenbrand, Ms. Dykes, Dr. Ramsey
- Admin/Others: Dr. Plenty, Ms. Adams, Mr. Copeland, Ms. Stapleton

Membership

Non-WTU Staff Rep

- Ms. Stapleton has been sitting in for this
- LSAT chairs will work to hold election for this

WTU Rep

- Union will discuss at staff meeting on 2/13
- If uncontested, rep will be decided at meeting
- If contested, two weeks for election

Upcoming Meetings

- April meeting was scheduled over spring break
 - LSAT agreed to reschedule meeting to Tuesday April 9th @6pm in person
- June meeting was scheduled after last day of school
 - LSAT agreed to reschedule to Wed, June 5 @ 5pm virtual
 - Hope expressed that Miner would have its new school leader selected by June meeting
 - Principal timeline – typically process begins in late spring so new principal can be introduced by end of the year cookout
 - A panel is formed –some positions are automatically on like PTO president and LSAT chairs- other parents can apply to be on it
 - Goal is to have equal number of parents and teachers
 - Panel recommendations provided to DCPS

Principal's Report (Dr. Plenty)

Enrollment

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- 368 students projected at this time last year
- 422 students projected for next year
- Lottery waitlist - 109 pre-k students on waitlist –
 - This number is everyone who ranked Miner on lottery application as one of their 12 schools

Construction

- Slated to move ECE classes to new building for next year
- Construction will begin in August for new childcare center within existing Miner building
- New childcare center will take up 5 current pre-k classrooms on first floor
- K- 1 hallway will be impacted

Staffing Updates

- Primary 3rd grade math teacher hired (Ms. Pederson) –
- Currently interviewing for primary 3rd grade ELA teacher
- Very close to hiring for vacant K position
- Actively seeking candidates for ILS aid position
- Intent to return survey – 56 staff completed survey, 46 intend to return, 7 requested transfer, 4 said not planning to return to miner, 5 not planning to return to DCPS, 1 will retire, 19 interested in looping, 16 requested 1:1 conversations with Dr. Plenty; 70 total staff members at school (survey sent to all staff, not just teachers)
- For comparison, 7 or 8 teachers left last year

Budget Update

- No update on budget timeline yet
- Base prices provided by position- these are not salaries, they are averages across the system – covers union fees, admin premium
- Items covered by school-based budget: all teacher positions, school psychologists, behavior techs, front office, custodial, RJ coordinators, aids, admin premium, custodial overtime, office supplies, contractual services, online platforms, custodial supplies, machinery, large equipment, additional technology not included in base DCPS tech, school security
- Items not covered in school based budget – capital projects, HVAC, athletics (DCIAA funded), nurse, cafeteria staff, 3rd-12th graders tech, and 3:1 tech ratio for younger grades
- All tech devices at Miner are 4 years plus- so they should get replaced
- Budget priority survey has been shared with parents and teachers- will also go out on remind -

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- At next LSAT meeting can provide enrollment projection by grade level to inform decisions
- If we have the budget by next meeting, it will begin open and go to closed for budget discussion

Other updates

- 98% of MOY completed, will share middle of the year testing at next meeting
- Walls should be getting painted Feb 16 and 17th- no school the 16th- waiting for final confirmation
- Key maintenance

Budget Priorities Discussion

- Will have two buildings – what does that look like from a user side?
- Additional custodian needed- two buildings to clean
- Need RW5 classification for ability to open and close
- Need total of 2 RW5s at minimum
- More custodial supplies
- Additional security - 2 new security officers – one for back entrance and one for new building
 - Security incidents have tended to occur on back side of building
 - If we added security, could we also open up 16th street entrance to school – has not been open for years
- Office space in other building? One small office and conference room – may turn conference into main office space
- Need for Attendance clerk/admin assistant
 - Miner has 43% chronic absenteeism (missing more than 10% of school days)
 - This number includes pre-K
- Additional sped, K, 3rd grade teachers
- Look into Cityyear or additional paras for upper grades
- Difficult to find people to be aids- cityyear could only work alone with 3-5th
- Additional academic lead (ECE coach ECE, TLI)
- Could do 4 TLIs or 2 coaches
- Interventionist to support coaches
- Reading partners and food prints are contractual services - 20k
 - Post pandemic Americorps struggling for participants
- Leading Man is literacy lab for ECE
- Keep STEM

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- Fund at least 5 specials teachers
 - World language not a DCPS requirement
 - Look to add special focused on movement/ dance/ theater
 - Possible to adjust focus of specials throughout the year
 - Current issue with specials not starting on time (bigger challenge with two buildings next year)
- APs required when you have 400 students
 - Combs is AP with a literacy specialty
- Need ECE Coach/leader/ AP
 - Someone who has ECE training/background
 - 1/3rd of the school is ECE
- Potential model of ECE special teacher (that teaches all ECE specials)
 - Issue if that individual is out sick
 - Some like that specials teachers are familiar faces when ECE matriculates
- ECE specific behavioral tech or equivalent
- Dean of Student or Restorative Justice coordinator in place of ISS Coordinator
- Need for ELA small group curriculum – the science of reading
- SEL curriculum (Responsive classrooms, peace of mind)
- Replenish Foundation kits
- ECE tech
- Clubs, extracurriculars (in addition to admin premiums, PTO)
 - Many teachers who do this now, use their classroom grants for this
- Tutoring program (admin premium if staff)
 - Not just aftercare, academic focus, results based
- Additional SPED staff and resources
- Additional social worker – requires DCPS approval
- 2 4th grade paras to benefit current 3rd grade cohort (hardest hit by Covid shutdowns and school leadership changes)
- Supplies times a million – especially paper towels and tissues
- Branding/ revitalization
 - New tables and chairs needed in many rooms
 - School store space promoting swag
- Field trips
- Kindred or similar equity consultant- contractual services
- Look into how much and how we have spent admin premium – has it delivered results?
- Educator’s handbook – better system -school license only \$1500

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- Next Meeting will be Feb 20th at 6pm in person

Meeting concluded at 7:55pm