

LSAT Meeting

November 6th, 2015 at 7:30am

Draft Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

James Albright (Principal)
Katherine Giron
Karen Harris (Chair, parent representative)
Adam Kirschenbaum
Karissa Kovner (Secretary, parent representative)
Patricia Milikin (teacher representative)
Diedre Neal
Terence Ngwa (WTU representative)
Chris Rhoads (teacher representative)
Patrick Rottman
Rosa Singletary (parent representative)
Alieze Stallworth
Tilney Wickersham (teacher representative)

Opening of Meeting

The second meeting of the academic year was called to order by Karen Harris, chair of the 2015-2016 LSAT. (There was no October meeting due to scheduling conflicts.) The final minutes from the September, 2015 meeting were circulated and approved later in the meeting with a motion from Principal Albright, seconded by Tilney Wickersham.

Budget and Staffing

Principal Albright opened the Principal's report by announcing that Deal would host one of the Chancellor's budget sessions this year. These sessions are attended by Principals, LSAT chairs, and teaching staff.

DCPS intends to make a number of timing changes to the budget process this year to allow schools, staff, and LSATs more time for consideration and discussion. Historically, review timelines have been extremely short (like days). The budget will contain a personnel line and non-personnel line. These lines are based on enrollment (Deal's enrollment is currently 1342); there can also be an additional allocation. Deal's per student allocation last year was around \$8,800. Albright would like to discuss the priorities for the 2016-2017 budget at the December LSAT meeting.

There are currently nine teachers on family and medical leave, which has significant implications for hiring and staffing. Two new teachers have been hired for 7th grade in ELA and Special Education. DCPS gave us an English teacher for 8th and we are hiring one more. So there is the potential to be overstaffed next year.

Testing and Surveys

Limited PARCC high school scores were released for English and math. Deal was disappointed not to get the data for the Deal kids that took the high school test. Data might be released some time in December. A single testing window and shorter tests still expected for this spring.

Albright noted that there will continue to be an interim assessment for Deal, as mandated by DCPS. The test is long and teachers need to score it. The school is thinking internally about the role these assessments play for Deal.

DCPS is implementing a pilot process this year to survey the kids regarding teacher performance and classroom management. The purpose of the survey is to provide information to the school and the staff regarding the views of the students and is to be used as a tool for providing feedback to the administration and teachers. The survey results will not be made available to Deal students.

Additional short items from the meeting

- Security reviewed the cameras in the building and found a few blind spots in the Reno Building. Those spots will be addressed shortly.
- Deal has received money from DCPS to address the poor lighting in the theater area.

Future Tasks and Discussion Items for the LSAT

Albright remains interested in having the LSAT to review the guidelines for the use of Deal space for community use. The current pattern of use is first Deal students, then DCPS, followed by non-profits, and then for-profits. The criteria were established four years ago.

The next meeting of the LSAT will be Thursday, December 3rd.

Respectfully submitted by Karissa Kovner
November 29, 2015