

Jonas Clarke Middle School

School Site Council Meeting

January 25, 2018

7:00AM

Main Office, Jonas Clarke Middle School

17 Stedman Road Lexington, MA 02421

Agenda

In Attendance: Anna Monaco, Principal; *Mary Barry-Ng*, Assistant Principal; Jonathan Wettstone, Assistant Principal; Kerry Richmond, Teacher; Casey Siagel, Teacher; *Anne Witt*, Teacher; Tiffany Zides, Teacher; Amy Selinger, Parent; Christina Cohen, Parent; Cathy Swan, Parent; Jennifer Roney, Parent.

I. Welcome / Review and approval of 11/30/17 Minutes

II. ALICE

- Principal - discussed ALICE training updates in regards to the SIP goals. Ms. Barry attended training sessions over the summer and is working with LHS admin to develop a district-wide staff training. While buildings are all different, the training and message stays consistent, giving staff more options and increases safety. The goal is increased communication and awareness.
- Parent mentioned going through similar trainings and expressed concerns about emotional components related to training and change in philosophy.
- Principal confirmed and discussed staff options for live simulations, allowing staff to opt out of alarming experiences.
- Teacher confirmed training at alternate school where a few staff did respond with high levels of anxiety.
- Principal identified future training sessions - table top conversations allowing staff to think about the situation without being exposed to stress/emotional.
- Teacher commented on the value of having a live experience and lessons learned, then suggested a progressive increase in training, allowing staff to move along the continuum to full understanding.
- Principal identified the difference between a lockdown protocol, an ALICE protocol and the feeling of empowerment. The next step would be how do we transition the conversation to the students - how do we begin the conversation.
- Principal noted that area schools currently practice ALICE with all students.

III. Middle School Schedule

-January professional development used "Back to the Future" protocol with staff to begin work on new middle school schedule.

- A variety of opinions, that led to realization that different content areas and grades have different viewpoints
- Teachers noted that overall teachers like what we have, but need some tweaking, and different grade levels have different viewpoints and focus
- Teacher noted it would be important for teachers to see other grade levels and the needs at each grade level
- Principal shared putting together a committee of approximately 26 members from both Diamond and Clarke. Also trying to include a representative from all stakeholders.
- First meeting will be February 7, 2018. Most meetings will occur on Wednesday afternoons.
- Goal will be to identify vision, top priorities, then reaching out to other schools, and during the summer come up with a few scenarios. Those scenarios will be presented in the fall and a choice will be made.
- Parent - will this involve schedule start time change? They will both occur in the same year but the start time won't really affect our schedule once the day begins.

IV. Questions, Comments, Concerns.

- New Superintendent announced: Dr. Julie Hackett
- Parent on the search committee stated pool was transparent and diverse. Finalists were each high quality. Hackett presented well and was a clear front-runner. School Committee voted unanimously to approve Hackett.
- Parent mentioned a presentation by the new superintendent, who gave a transition plan for the district based on her research of the district.
- Site visits - candidates put together agenda for day and meetings with all stakeholders, try to identify what the culture of the district are, strengths and weaknesses.
- Hungry minds and happy hearts important to her
- Sees Lexington as a beacon - a progressive school district with chance to transform education
- Principal noted that she felt the entire process was transparent and that principal opinions were valued in the process as well

V. Adjourn. Next Meeting: February 5, 2018

