

Jonas Clarke Middle School

School Site Council Meeting

February 15, 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, Anne Witt, Teacher; Tiffany Zides, Teacher; Angela Chang, Parent; Cathy Swan, Parent; Jennifer Roney, Parent.

Agenda

I. Welcome

- Parent asked: reminder no homework due to holiday (New Year)
- Discussed school shooting in Florida and connections to current ALICE trainings.
 - Public “pulls” available on outside of buildings.
 - Debate over having a trauma assessment team - formalized.
 - Teacher: do we communicate the theme of “see something - say something?”
 - Current theme is around decision making in general, which takes place each day with students supporting one another across the district.
 - Discussed conversation with students about sharing safety concerns in the home - telling an adult who can help.
- Vaping Letters: parent shared discovery of vaping within the backpack. The parent went on to share how it was an unknown, as well as subsequent conversation with other parents also involved. Hopefully this conversation sheds light on the issue.
 - Parent noted that Julie Fenn sent out a similar letter outlining bedroom set-up and what it looks like in the home. Recommended a second informational meeting for parents/community.
 - Normal teen bedroom with items to hide drugs and alcohol - water bottles, zip drives, etc.
 - Parent Academy - now being run by Julie Fenn.

II. Review and approve meeting minutes January 2018

- Approved

III. SIP 2017-2018 review and discussion

a. Mid year Progress Update

- i. Principal discussed goal to review current goals, provide updates and see if anything needs to be added or removed (not relevant, changed).

ii. Academic Performance

1. RTI - instructional practices - make visible. Specifically Learning Walkthroughs, which was a goal but does not appear to be logistically feasible.
 - a. Department Heads currently scheduling teacher-teacher observations within the departments.
 - b. Teachers cited their own personal visitations - informal.
 - c. Math coaches supporting within the department to increase teacher-teacher observations and supported implementation of strategies.
2. SRT Update - identified specific work with the ELL specialist and corresponding teachers. Working to support classroom teachers with st
- 3.
4. Strategies to successfully engage students - around the differences in learning styles (memorizing characters versus learning phonics).
5. Off-Team Specialist recommended access to notes, giving access to insights and opportunity to add voice.
6. Executive Functioning - teachers worked over the summer to develop lessons to better meet student needs. Understanding that we can't move large numbers of students into support classes such as Guided Learning - then try to move Guided Learning into the general classroom. Organizational strategies more strategically and literally taught within the classroom to bring all students to a better level - binder organization, study skills, note taking, etc.
 - a. Parent asked - is there a plan to expand to all teams?
 - b. Teacher confirmed the goal to share with all teams, knowing that many teachers are currently implementing on their own without the formal partnership with the Guided Learning teacher. Teacher cited that formal lessons would be taught during WIN block to target and collect data on the 15 identified students.
 - c. AP noted an observation of recording homework in their agenda book and subsequent "learnings" about teacher behaviors - even being more specific when writing homework expectations on the board or web site.
7. **Homework Posted** - goal was to effectively communicate

- a. Staff identified technical glitches in the system where homework will revert back to a prior week.
 - b. Tech teacher recommended Google Site as a platform
 - c. Teacher recommended one-stop-shopping when it comes to checking homework for students - making it easier.
8. **Learning Walkthroughs** - informal at this point (see notes above)
9. **District Staff**
- a. invite to faculty meetings. Lack of time available - might need to re-examine this goal.
10. **Project Based Learning** -
- a. great deal of work around this topic. Need to identify goals as staff are moving forward. Currently staff are exploring on their own without a major push from admin.
11. **Technology**
- a. Next year- Chromebooks will be in 7th grade, 8th grade will be on iPads. The following year both 7th and 8th grade will have 1:1 Chromebooks.
 - b. Transition is tough - a number of staff members have spent a good deal of time and resources to create specific iBooks, iMovies, etc. that can't be used on the Chromebooks. However we will maintain iPad carts that will be accessible to the staff.
 - c. iOs continues to update, and sometimes the apps do not update at the same time.
12. **Social and Emotional Goals**
- a. (#4) Would like to look at this a bit more and get information from all stakeholders. "Solicit feedback from faculty, staff, students and parents regarding stress levels and social and emotional areas of need.
 - b. Acknowledged goal to get Riverside to come and train our teachers and staff this year on how to recognize student
 - c. Just had another meeting with DESE Safe Schools about LGBTQ community and education about gender fluidity. Another piece we would like to continue to focus on. Creating safe spaces in our school and continue to how to make students feel safe. This group does a series of training for faculty.
13. **School Start Time**
- a. Entire LPS faculty will be hearing from Dr. Judy Owens (sleep study) on Monday, March 5th for ALL teachers to hear from her

and her research. We will then discuss the school start time issues and implementation.

- b. Lots of pieces to this puzzle (e.g. transportation)
- c. Change will occur 2019-2020, so talks and planning will continue throughout the upcoming school year.

IV. Questions, Comments, Concerns

V. Adjourn

