

John D. O'Bryant School of Mathematics and Science
School Site Council Meeting
October 11, 2016

SSC Convened at 5:08PM in the Fishbowl.

Present:

Headmaster: Dr. Freeman-Wisdom

Assistant Headmasters: Mr. MacLeod, Ms. Nolan, Ms. Kontras

Teachers: Mr. Christian (SSC), Mr. Joseph (SSC), Ms. Papagiannis (SSC), Ms. Stern (Faculty Senate)

Parent Members: Ms. Farrell, Ms. Lambright, Ms. Yee, Ms. Culpepper-Jones, Ms. Perry-Wallace

Student Member: Crystal Anake

Feedback on specificity of SSC Powers

1. Approval of budget, discretionary spending
2. Approval waivers from BPS policy (given 66.7% vote); examples:
 - a. Timing and length of school day and year
 - b. Class size
 - c. Teaching time each week
 - d. Time and place of parent meetings
 - e. In service scheduling
 - f. Non-teaching duties
 - g. Curriculum
 - h. Timing of report cards
 - i. Attendance policies
 - j. Discipline codes
3. Function by consensus
4. Headmaster has veto power over SSC decision
5. Joint steering committee to support proper functioning of SSC.

Clarity on next steps, notes, and deliverables

1. More time given for next steps
2. Notes posted for 72 hours

Location

1. Fishbowl had been previously requested
2. Noted that we will remain in Fishbowl as long as we are intentional about making sure all representatives are in the circle

Updates

1. O'Bryant Start-time Subcommittee
 - a. City Council Hearing next Monday, October 17th
 - b. Survey administered to staff by Faculty Senate
 - c. Folder compiled with informative resources
 - d. Student survey drafted
 - i. Open responses included (Making Thinking Visible)
 - e. Offer to provide updates to those who share their e-mail addresses
 - i. FAQ issued to students
 - f. Students will receive the "One-Pager" via Homeroom, with a reminder to check BPS e-mail for instructions (on Thursday).
 - i. Suggestion that additional eyes look at the One-Pager to give feedback/comments before released to students.
 - g. Additional edits:
 - i. Against changes: Student after-school jobs, Students presently beat the traffic given the early start time
 - ii. Elementary schools will not change in relationship to HS decision.
2. Community Potluck reflections
 - a. Successful event
 - b. Great attendance and engagement
 - c. Feedback from staff and families
 - i. Some suggesting more than one per year
 - ii. Community Builders will host a family workshop, the content of which will be discussed next week. One suggestion is to do a workshop on the use of Aspen.
3. Staffing update from the Headmaster
 - a. Guidance counselor in CFC position
 - i. She found a guidance counselor position at another school
 - ii. HR posted a CFC position
 1. Headmaster requested additional funds for full guidance counselor from district, none granted thus far
 2. We cannot hire a CFC as a guidance counselor moving forward
 3. Subsequent budget decisions will evaluate the creation of a 1.0 FTE guidance position
 - b. 2 Spanish positions
 - i. One on leave: licensed, native language speaker covering
 - ii. Letters sent to families regarding covering teachers

- c. 90-day probationary period for new hires
 - i. If anyone released, another long-term sub situation would arise
 - ii. If teacher beyond 90 days is found unsatisfactory, teacher would not receive reasonable assurance
 - iii. Administrators engaged in evaluative process now

- 4. Music Program Update
 - a. HM meeting with district (David Bloom) on Friday @ 2:30
 - i. Serves 800 OB students
 - ii. Loss of music program would come as a substantial loss to the school
 - iii. 1450 students would need to be scheduled with 6.5 less teachers
 - iv. Headmaster will update SSC on meeting and next steps

- 5. Headmaster search process
 - a. Ms. Farrell met with Dr. Pope
 - i. Process will not begin until January
 - ii. Ms. Farrell asked if the SSC and FS may choose to bypass process and ask for the Headmaster to be permanently appointed.

- 6. Innovation Arena/Strategic Planning Update
 - a. Strategic Plan
 - i. Team met with WPI today - strategic planning
 - ii. STEM as defined at OB
 - iii. Survey data; focus groups
 - 1. Students may have been surveyed without enough background information
 - b. Innovation Arena
 - i. Proposal of OB Innovation Fair
 - ii. Informal support of Dr. Chang
 - iii. Identification of support moving forward
 - iv. Headmaster meeting with Dr. Pope and Michelle Shannon for OB moving forward.
 - 1. HM wants list of what OB needs to thrive, rather than to merely sustain.
 - v. Headmaster is meeting with GE on the 17th

Additional Business:

- 1. Composition of Parent Reps to SSC (Crystal Davis and Christina Ye: Reps: Sheena Lambright and Lucille Culpepper-Jones as alternates)

2. Teacher members to SSC: Donovan MacLean (2017), Paulena Papagiannis (2017), Denise Rodrigues Bekler (2018), Paul Christian (2018), Jason Joseph (2018).

Next Steps

1. Dr. Wisdom will follow up with info from meetings (Budget: Music Program and GE)
2. Ms. Papagiannis will revise One-Pager and Survey, present to SSC
3. Secretary, Co-Chair will be selected at next meeting.
4. Consideration of meeting time (November meeting).

Plus/Delta Exit Ticket