

Learning Environments and Partnerships (LEAP)
Minutes – Tuesday, August 14, 2018

Committee Members Present and Position

Mike Kohls – McKinley Board	Laurie Klinkhammer – BOE
Melissa Greer – Putnam Heights 5 th grade	Todd Johnson – CV Montessori/Co-Chair
Gail Halmstad – Community Member	Pete Riley – McKinley Principal
Amy Traynor – DeLong instructional coach	Kim Koller – Executive Director of Administration

Absent: Derek Black, Aaron Harder, Jeremy Harrison, Katherine Rhoades, Michelle Radtke

Visitors: Chris Hambuch-Boyle and Anna Rybicki

1. Public Commentary

- a. Chris Hambuch-Boyle came to support as she used to serve on the committee
- b. Anna Rybicki on behalf of Initiative for New Directions (INDE) came to provide an update to the committee on their proposal through the innovation zone.
 - i. Anna met with Jim Schmitt on July 5 regarding INDE and ECASD
 - ii. On July 18, Anna attended a webinar held by the Wisconsin Resource Center for Charter Schools. That office created a new form for charter school applications for districts to use. Anna feels this is a good resource that could be used.
 - iii. On July 19-21, Anna and a few others attended a leadership conference held by Wisconsin Leadership Development.
 - iv. On August 7, there was an INDE Vision and Outreach Committee meeting that was covered by the Washington Post. The reporting in attendance is working on a story about some of the changes in Eau Claire and though INDE fit into that story.
 - v. On August 9, The Educational Advisory Group held a meeting. This was a group of about 20 District Teachers who have volunteered their time to help INDE develop a full and robust educational program.
 - vi. In addition, INDE met as a Board three times and had a full team meeting. INDE remains interested in finding ways to move their initiative forward.

2. Membership of Committee

- a. When the committee was first created, it was made up of the Executive Director of Administration, a member from each Charter School Governance Board, community members, Charter School Administrators, two School Board members, two Charter Board staff, one Elementary and one secondary teacher and others as the committee saw fit, including community members. The committee partnered with Teaching & Learning and brought Michelle Radtke, Director of Assessment, on to the committee. Also moved from two Charter Teachers and two District Teachers to be any four District Staff in an effort to open the pool of possible members.
 - i. The Montessori governance board is currently not represented on the committee
 - ii. Need to define the committee before adding members Pete suggested. All agreed.
- b. Discussed if there should be a rotation of committee members or not. There is a benefit of members staying on the committee to provide history and people are busy and it can be difficult to find members. A benefit of a rotation would be new ideas. The committee

felt there is a healthy mix of members with history and a mix of turn over with new members joining recently.

- c. Need to define 'who we are'. Kim wants to explore this further and define the purpose of the committee.
 - d. There is a charter school policy that is separate. The committee didn't want the committee to become a charter school committee. LEAP zones are not charter schools; however, there may be similarities. The committee serves as a buffer between charter contracts and the ECASD School Board.
 - e. Gail asked how this committee supports something once it gets going. Her experiences explained this is important. Draft revision in June shared by Tim Leibham from previous committee work defining this. One purpose is to reach out to community.
 - f. Laurie coming in new to the committee understands the committee has vetted ideas to be formed, modified, etc. and from here, move on to the School Board for presentation as a whole. Other members agreed with this. If this is true, then what are our rules for doing this process. Todd agreed, we are trying to figure out how this fits in with the structure of the District so these programs are supported and successful. Need clarity of the parameters the committee can operate in.
 - g. Amy said struggles have been determining how zones are supported once zones are Board approved. Who is the contact if a zone needs further support? Suggested to have a soft agreement. Should there be professional development to aide in zone implementation?
 - h. Gail thought professional development could be opportunities for the zones to be able to network and talk to one another. Currently, this is not an option.
3. Policy Review
- a. Reviewed draft policy 332 revision. This is the result of a work session with School Board in June. Principals that have zones in their building, Pete, Todd, Kim, Jim Schmitt and Michelle Radtke reviewed the policy and aligned it to the strategic plan. They determined what is affirming to the policy and what questions they had.
 - b. In the draft, what should be in policy, rule, exhibit?
 - i. Add "committee is first step/incubator for..."
 - ii. Possibly eliminate 'greater latitude for failure'
 - iii. Draft policy doesn't have language about charter schools. Committee agrees this should be worked back into the draft policy.
 - iv. Do all Board committees have a policy in addition to 185? If not, should the LEAP policy be referenced in rule 185?
 - v. Policy is what and why. Rule is how, when, and where.
 - vi. A sub-committee will review draft policy and bring feedback to next meeting. Kim will set up this meeting.
 1. Pete, Todd, Aaron, Laurie, and Kim
4. Future Agenda Items
- a. What zones are out there? What is the support in place for these zones? Are they currently successful?
 - b. Draft policy review
 - c. Future/future: Revise performance agreement and support details. Policy and rule should be in place first
5. Continue to meet second Tuesday of the month
6. Motion by Mike to adjourn, seconded by Todd. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm.

