

Meeting: LEAP Committee

Date: March 12, 2019

Time: 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Location: Administration Building, Room 137

Attendees:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Al-Hashlamoun	<input type="checkbox"/> Jessica Behrens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Greer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Gail Halmstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aaron Harder
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Justin Jablonske	<input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Jackson	<input type="checkbox"/> Todd Johnson**	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Laurie Klinkhammer*	<input type="checkbox"/> Mike Kohls
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Koller	<input type="checkbox"/> Jason Rehbein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pete Riley**	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crystal Ruzicka	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Breana Stanley
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Traynor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Wheeler	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

*Committee Chair

**Co-Facilitator

Guest(s): Jim Schmitt, Executive Director of Teaching and Learning

Notes: Meta Miske

Laurie Klinkhammer called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.

1. Public Comment

- Ben Christianson is an 8th grader in the Arctic Zone. Ben thanked LEAP for approving Arctic Zone. He believes Arctic Zone helped him learn with dyslexia by allowing him to be creative in his learning. Ben shared that he enjoys the projects he's done in the Arctic Zone such as a historical board game. Thanks to the Arctic Zone he feels confident, excited and ready for high school. He believes others can benefit from the Arctic Zone.
- Ava Brisiel is an 8th grader in the Arctic Zone and thanked LEAP for approving Arctic Zone. Ava appreciates that Arctic Zone allows students to teach themselves and appreciates the project-based learning. The Arctic Zone allowed Ava to learn about herself and how she learns best.
- Shana Brisiel is a mother to four children including Ava. Shanna hopes the ECASD will share project-based learning like the Arctic Zone with other students. She has seen Ava blossom through the Arctic Zone. Ava has discovered how she best learns and has garnered valuable skills such as time management. Having a group to belong to has allowed many students to put aside the drama of middle school and focus on the learning. She hopes more students will be granted this opportunity.

2. Approval of Minutes from 1/8/2019 Meeting – Pete Riley and Todd Johnson

- Motion by Laurie Klinkhammer to approve minutes with e-mail correction from Joe Luginbill. Seconded by Aaron Harder. Minutes were approved by unanimous vote of the committee.

3. Policy and Process Finalization – Kim Koller

- Review – In January LEAP worked out details and added some items to be addressed in the proposal process. The revisions weren't reflected in the document shared with the committee at this meeting. LEAP reviewed the Proposal Process and revisions that are necessary.
- The committee agreed that additional revisions would be made to ensure the LEAP Zone proposer is involved in all aspects of the process.
- The committee agreed to keep the LEAP Ambassador involved from start to finish including after implementation.

- Discussion of having a LEAP Zone as part of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) Budget. It was agreed this is the appropriate budget for a LEAP Zone.
 - Staffing of a LEAP Zone and resources such as curriculum materials do not come from the SIP budget; it costs such as professional conferences that would be part of the SIP budget.
- The committee agreed that a LEAP Zone proposer should either be on the Building Leadership Team (BLT) or should report quarterly to the BLT to ensure the zone is an integrated part of the building.
- Discussion of defining student/staff ratio in the Performance Agreement and if a LEAP Zone should be held to targeted class size or if the proposer can define the appropriate student/staff ratio for a LEAP Zone.
 - Kim will add the following to the Performance Agreement template: Address special circumstances that may influence class size.
- Policy and Governance (P&G) has asked for changes to the LEAP Zone policy, which has been done. Amy Traynor made motion to take Policy and Proposal Process to P&G as soon as possible after LEAP reviews and approves revisions. Melissa Greer seconded. Discussion – if changes are recommended should the Policy and Proposal Process be brought back to a LEAP meeting? The committee will discuss changes via e-mail and if a consensus can be reached, it will go forward to P&G as no substance changes will be made. Motion approved by unanimous vote of the committee.
- **Action Needed:**
 - Kim will revise the Proposal Process document and send to committee for review
 - Committee will review revisions and if approved Kim will take Proposal Process and Policy to P&G

4. Arctic Zone Update – Ali McMahon and Andy Brown

- Introduction of Andy and Ali – advisors of Arctic Zone at Northstar.
- After 3 full years, they feel it's been both successful and unsuccessful.
- Successes:
 - Arctic Zone student's test scores are the same or higher than their Northstar peers.
 - Students are growing and becoming independent learners.
 - The Zone is so popular that two of three years they've had to turn interested students away.
- Challenges:
 - The Performance Agreement is poorly worded and has continued to fail the Arctic Zone with each new year.
 - They are unsure who they can turn to for support, they've been asked to "lay low," and elements of the program have been taken away from them.
- Specific items not being supported:
 - Adding staff with increased student enrollment; approximately 80 students in Arctic Zone for only 2 teachers.
 - Allowing autonomy of Professional Development and keeping core areas within their curriculum (math has been moved out of the Arctic Zone.)
 - They don't get prep or collaboration time. They don't have team time with building administrators, counselors, and other support persons like other teams.
- Request to re-write a new Performance Agreement with clearly defined items:
 - Areas to address:
 - Staffing – at what point can the addition of a staff member be attained? Student enrollment has required a lottery twice and math was pulled from the Arctic Zone curriculum so students must leave the Zone for math.
 - PD – Arctic Zone is a unique environment and the teachers were denied opportunities to attend PD in their area of expertise but rather have been required to attend the same secondary PD as all other secondary teachers.
 - Communication – they are removed from conversations yearly regarding the program that they designed and implemented.
 - Definition of who is responsible for carrying out the items on the Performance Agreement.
- If the EauZone proposal moves forward they believe these items need to be addressed in that Performance Agreement to avoid the same challenges.

- Question: What are some of the alternative assessments used in Arctic Zone and why are they important?
 - The Arctic Zone talks about growth in essential skills such as time management, collaboration, and other things that are hard to measure. They have power standard that relate to the major curriculum standards to help measure how students meet the standards. Students identify power standards with each project and document how they've worked toward the standards or mastered those skills.
- Discussion regarding whether Arctic Zone needs a new Performance Agreement or if it will fall in to the new Eau Zone Performance Agreement.
 - Based on the Proposal Process being created now, the committee agreed that they may have missed the timeline to implement Eau Zone for the 19-20 school year, and therefore it would benefit the Arctic Zone to have a new Performance Agreement now.
 - It was agreed that a working group from the LEAP committee should review the current Performance Agreement and that a LEAP Ambassador should be assigned right away to the Arctic Zone.
 - The LEAP Ambassador's role will not be to solve the problems but to get the right people together who can solve problems.
- Jonny Wheeler and Crystal Ruzicka both volunteered to serve as LEAP Ambassadors for the Arctic Zone.
- **Action Needed:**
 - Working group needs to be established to begin review of Arctic Zone Performance Agreement

5. Other items

- Laurie thanked Amy Traynor for her work on Governor Evers' transition team which reflected well on Amy and the District.

6. Future Agenda Items

- Eau Zone if the Proposal Process and Policy are approved by P&G
- Charter School policy 331

Laurie Klinkhammer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Amy Traynor seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.