

Learning Environments and Partnerships (LEAP)

Minutes – Tuesday, January 24, 2017

“The charge of this committee is to provide guidance and recommendations to the School Board, relating to its role as authorizer of current and future ECASD Charter/Choice Schools. This will encourage innovation that could increase our ability to provide diverse programming and methodologies. Through this investigation and advisement, the committee can support the increase in student readiness for and success in ECASD programming and post-secondary options.”

Meeting Recorder: Sandy LaValley

Committee Norms: Honest and open dialogue

Committee Members Present and Position	
Derick Black, Secondary	Chris Hambuch-Boyle, BOE & Chair
Melissa Greer, Elementary	Gail Halmstad, Ad Hoc Member
Jeremy Harrison, CV Montessori	Todd Johnson, CV Montessori/Co-Chair
Mike Kohls, McKinley Board	Tim Leibham, Administration
Michelle Radtke, Director of Assessment	Pete Riley, McKinley Head of Instruction/Co-Chair
Guests: Dr. Mary Ann Hardebeck, Superintendent	Dave Oldenberg, Director of Academic Services
Kit Schiefelbein, Northstar Assistant Principal	Tim Skutley, Northstar Principal

Absent: Joel Dimock, Kristen Gundry, Aaron Harder and Katherine Rhoades

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mike Kohls to approve the December 2016 Minutes, seconded by Jeremy Harrison. Motion carried.

2. Introduction of Guests

Several guest were introduced: Dr. Mary Ann Hardebeck, Superintendent, Dave Oldenberg, Director of Academic Services, Tim Skutley, Northstar Middle School Principal, and Kit Schiefelbein, Northstar Middle School Assistant Principal.

3. Approval of New Member to LEAP Committee

Motion by Jeremy Harrison, seconded by Tim Leibham to approve the addition of Dr. Katherine Rhoades to the committee as a community member. Dr. Rhoades is a retired professor from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. Motion carried.

4. ARCTIC Zone (AZ) Functioning & Access

Tim Leibham shared costs associated with the ARCTIC Zone program at Northstar Middle School (software licenses, collaboration, supplies and staff). Tim Skutley, Northstar Principal, shared the current enrollment is twenty-five 6th grade students instructed by two staff members. Moving forward, Tim Skutley asked for clarification of the Principal/Assistant

Principal roles when making decisions pertaining future enrollment, staffing, and program space needs.

Dr. Hardebeck noted that coming out of the referendum and a 2.3-million-dollar deficit there are a number of various requests for students needs in the district and asked how will the ECASD facilitate those discussions of things that will be cut in order to make room for innovation. The current cost of the Arctic Zone program is about \$163,000. The program was designed to add a group of 25 6th graders years two and three forming a blended 6th – 8th grade program by the end of year three. This will result in adding an additional FTE(s). If more than 25 6th grade students enroll, then a lottery will need to take place.

The committee members unanimously shared their support that the school principal should own the program at Northstar and decide on staffing needs. The principal will promote both standard program and the Arctic Zone. Some of the agreement about autonomy relating to staff development needs to be discussed.

The LEAP Committee will continue to encourage and allow staff to bring forth proposals for consideration. Dr. Hardebeck felt we will build support if we include staff who are on the SIP and building initiatives, however, there needs to be a calendar to plan a year in advance. She added that the Board needs to know about staffing and supply needs by June.

Motion by Mike Kohls to adjourn, seconded by Melissa Greer. Meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.

The next LEAP Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 14, 2017 at 4:00 pm.