

Learning Environments and Partnerships (LEAP)

Minutes – Tuesday, March 14, 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	Joel Dimock, Secondary
Kristen Gundry	Chris Hambuch-Boyle, BOE & Chair
Gail Halmstad, Ad Hoc Member	Aaron Harder, BOE
Jeremy Harrison, CV Montessori	Todd Johnson, CV Montessori/Co-Chair
Tim Leibham, Administration	Michelle Radtke, Director of Assessment
	Pete Riley, McKinley Head of Instruction/Co-Chair
Guests: Bill Giese, Sam Davey Principal	

Absent: Melissa Greer, Mike Kohls, and Katherine Rhoades

1. Review/Approve February Minutes

Motion by Aaron Harder to approve the February 14, 2017 minutes, seconded by Joel Dimock.
Motion carried.

2. In-TECH-Great Update

Bill Giese, Sam Davey principal, shared a handout (included) listing the successes and challenges of implementing In-TECH-Great in his building. Some of the highlights included sending staff members to the TIES Convention in Minneapolis, MN, which is an educational/technology infusion training. Several staff travelled to Minneapolis to tour a STEM school and they continue to partner with that school. The same group toured an elementary school in Brillion, WI, that has a STEM lab, funded by grants received from local businesses. Bill also shared the partnerships their school has developed with JAMF, National Presto Corporation, UW-Stout, UW-Eau Claire Bluegold Beginnings, and CVTC. He/his staff are hoping for grant opportunities in the future.

One challenge related to the 2017-18 budget to implement six iPads per classroom, which equates to about \$25,000. Bill Giese will meet with Dr. Hardebeck and James Martin about this technology request. Another challenge is changing the master schedule for 4th and 5th grade students in the areas of science and social studies. The staff would like to teach the same morning schedule next year, but in the afternoon, more project based learning. They talked about implementing digital classroom portfolios that would follow students K-5. He doesn't

anticipate this going to an all school innovation zone. At some point, the In-TECH-Great team will present to the Board.

3. ***Race to Nowhere* Update**

Tim Leibham shared the documentary, *Race to Nowhere*, will not be shown to ECASD students. Administration felt the documentary, which included a story of a high school student who committed suicide, could be a sensitive topic as one of our high schools lost a student to suicide this school year. The committee's purpose/intention was to find out if any of our students are experiencing stress due to over-scheduling, over-testing and academic pressures.

The committee discussed other options in order to get feedback and offer solutions to students. Suggestions were: 1) sponsoring a student summit; 2) CESA/community member showing the documentary; and 3) having all administration watch the documentary.

4. **2017-18 Budget Update**

Tim Leibham met with Abby Johnson, Executive Director of Business, about the LEAP/IZ/ARCTIC Zone Budgets. Going forward the ARCTIC Zone budget would become part of Northstar Middle School's building budget. The LEAP Budget would still provide professional development. The members discussed getting rules in place for the policy that established the LEAP Committee.

5. **Collaboration with Demo/Trends/Facilities**

Chris Hambuch-Boyle would like to see the LEAP and Demographic Trends Committees collaborate on the former Little Red School building and the surrounding 38 acres owned by the Eau Claire Area School District. The building is currently used for storage. She felt the grounds could be a great resource for environmental education for ECASD students.

6. **LEAP rules workgroup**

The LEAP Rules Workgroup includes Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Todd Johnson, Tim Leibham and Pete Riley. They plan to meet next month. Email Tim Leibham if you would like to assist this workgroup: t Leibham@ecasd.us.

7. **Roosevelt IZ proposal Update**

This item is tabled until the next meeting, Tuesday, April 11, 2017.

8. **Other**

Kristen Gundry encouraged the committee to read the book, *In Praise of American Educators: And How Can They Become Even Better* by Richard DuFour.

Motion by Chris Hambuch Boyle to adjourn, seconded by Derick Black. Meeting adjourned at 5:56 pm. The LEAP Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 11, 2017, at 4:00 pm in Room 137, 500 Main Street, Eau Claire.