

Learning Environments and Partnerships (LEAP)

Minutes – Tuesday, September 12, 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.”

Committee Members Present and Position	
Kristen Gundry	Melissa Greer, Elementary
Gail Halmstad, Ad Hoc Member	Chris Hambuch-Boyle, BOE & Chair
Aaron Harder, BOE	Jeremy Harrison, CV Montessori Charter
Todd Johnson, CV Montessori/Co-Chair	Tim Leibham, Administration
Michelle Radtke	Pete Riley, McKinley Head of Instruction/Co-Chair

Absent: Derek Black, Mike Kohls, and Katherine Rhoades

Visitors: Anna Rybicki, Jim Schmitt

- 1. Review and Approval of Minutes**
Committee members reviewed April, May and July 2017 meeting minutes. Motion by Aaron Harder to approve all minutes, seconded by Melissa Greer. Motion carried.
- 2. Review and Approval of LEAP Rules**
Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Aaron Harder, Pete Riley and Tim Leibham have been working on the LEAP Rules over the past year. The members reviewed and discussed the shared revised document. Aaron Harder motioned to accept the LEAP Rules, seconded by Kristen Gundry. Motion carried. The LEAP Rule will be shared with the Executive Team and Board members and will accompany Board Policy 332:
<http://www.ecasd.us/ECASD/media/District-Site/PDFs/Board%20Policies/332-LEAP-Committee-9-12-16.pdf>
- 3. Membership Vacancy**
There is a secondary staff opening on the LEAP Committee with Joel Dimock’s new position as Sherman Elementary Principal. Tim Leibham shared Amy Traynor as a possible candidate. Amy is an instructional coach at DeLong Middle School and could share what she is doing with independent project issues and very similar efforts. She is working on her national board certification and has good contacts with DPI/Tony Evers. The committee was in favor of extending an invitation to Amy to join the committee.
- 4. LEAP Project Charter and Next Steps**
How do we figure out what is in the Project Charter to assist with supporting the LEAP and IZ’s? Community Connections, Business/Budget and what would that look like? Kristen is interested in T&L; Aaron with Business; Chris and Jeremy with Community Connections. Tim will share this with the Exec Team.

5. LEAP Professional Development

Oct 13, 2017, all schools are closed for professional development in the morning and instructional planning in the afternoon. Paula Kaiser will provide instruction from Pathways. Pete Riley will have his staff/support staff attend. Andy Brown and Ali McMahon will participate with their ARCTIC Zone; Davey will focus on 4th and 5th grade with 6 teachers attending. There may be one staff member from North and a couple from Roosevelt to learn more about personalized learning.

Tim Leibham shared over the summer some staff registered to go to DC Everest on Project Based Learning but unfortunately the conference was cancelled. The ISN is running four pre-flight conferences and are looking at Eau Claire to host a one day session in January or February. We could accommodate up to 100 by opening it up to other districts. The committee was in favor of Tim talking with T&L about this.

The intent of Dimensions of Learning (DOL) was to have it as a stand-alone. Tim has shared this with different state organizations and feedback has been very positive from Tom McCarthy, DPI. What we're missing is indicators of those outcomes. Tim would like to talk with principals about what they are and form a pool of staff to brainstorm what those would look like in our classroom and maybe ask 5th graders how they would see it and put a rubric together of indicators in a developmental way. Various scenarios were discussed. It was suggested Tim connect with the T&L team for more discussion.

6. LRNC Proposal Update

This proposal was approved by the LEAP Committee, however, because it's a community group we want to vet through the LEAP Committee and Exec Team to go forward and engage in fund raising within the community. It is not on the September Budget Development agenda but hopefully it will be on the October agenda so we can see this develop. Tim plans to investigate renovation and transportation costs. One of the members asked about funding available through Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) stating they are promoting STEM and STEAM schools. Jim Schmitt, T&L stated the ESSA laws have changed this year affecting how Title I is laid out.

The committee talked about sending out a short survey to families about innovation. When Tim met with the LRNC proposers, one thing requested of LEAP was to somehow survey the community if there is an interest in developing this. There are other ways to do this, i.e., a flyer on the district web page and sharing it at middle school parent teacher conferences.

Tim Leibham will discuss this with the Exec Team to ask for their thoughts about listening sessions, flyers at the schools or web page exposure.

7. Performance Agreements

The committee members were asked to look over the agreements for the October meeting.

8. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Jeremy Harrison, seconded by Aaron Harder. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2017 at 4pm in Room 123C.