

Charter/Choice Programming Committee

Minutes – February 9, 2016

“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 & Position/Employee Group

Derick Black, Secondary Teacher

Tracy Bush, Ad Hoc Member

Doug Diermeier, McKinley

Melissa Greer, Elementary Teacher

Gail Halmstad, Ad Hoc Member

Jeremy Harrison, CV Montessori

Todd Johnson, CVM Principal/Co-Chair

Tim Leibham/District Office Admin

Pete Riley/McKinley Head of

Rich Spindler, BOE

Instruction/Co-Chair

Absent: Tracy Bush, Chris Hambuch-Boyle, Mike Kohls

1. Charter Sector Update

Pete Riley shared there is a need in the secondary schools for students needing educational interventions and possible mental health supports. Through proposals, it may be possible to expand the existing charter at McKinley. Currently, two programs are housed at the McKinley Charter School location: 1) Competency Component for 17 – 20 year old students who are credit deficient; and 2) Credit Component for students in grades 6 through 12. Pete is not sure if this would fall into the IZ area, but he wanted to inform the group of the discussions taking place and seeing the need from both high schools.

Tim Leibham shared statistics of our current 8th grade students: 71 have at least two D's and F's, who, at the end of 6th grade had no D's or F's. Current 11th grade students of 300+ earned D's and/or F's fall semester that did not have any failing grades at the end of 9th grade. If the committee is interested, we could expand McKinley or have something offsite and find someone who could provide certified mental health and educational services. We would be targeting very specific families. Pete Riley shared there is a film that uses ACE (Adverse Childhood Experiences Study/Tools) with their student body to help families/community understand brain development with these experiences.

2. IZ Proposal Updates and Distribution List

Since the Charter Choice information appeared in the District Update, Tim Leibham has been contacted by staff across all levels specifically, Sam Davey Elementary, Longfellow Elementary, Northstar Middle School and Memorial High School about the proposal process. More updates will be shared at the March meeting

3. IZ Proposal Packet Prototype

The group discussed draft handouts and several revisions that will be used in the proposal process and performance agreement. Tim Leibham plans to share this information with ECASD staff in the next District Update that will include questions/diagram to assist in defining the IZ proposal being submitted. Rules will be developed and outline the four step process:

1. Overall concept with solid foundation
2. Conversation with review panel
3. Formalize it with an application
4. Comes to the Committee/Board

4. Community Awareness/Hosting documentary film showings

Tim Leibham shared information about a few documentary films relevant to poverty, assisting families, and public schools pushed to the brink by over-scheduling and testing: Paper Tigers (<http://www.papertigersmovie.com/>), The Race to Nowhere, (<http://www.racetonowhere.com/about-film>), and Beyond Measure (<http://beyondmeasurefilm.com/>), could be purchased and used to help McKinley students with some of these programs. There are a couple of groups that might be interested in helping with this initiative: Support Eau Claire Public Schools and Coalition for Civic Engagement and Public Schools.

5. Budget and Personnel

Tim Leibham, Pete Riley and Todd Johnson will work on a budget for the 2016-17 school year.

6. Adjournment

Todd Johnson motioned to adjourn, Melissa Greer seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2016, at 4pm in Room 123B.