

# **Learning Environments and Partnerships (LEAP)**

Minutes – Tuesday, August 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**

Chris Hambuch-Boyle, BOE & Chair

Kristen Gundry, CV Montessori Board

Gail Halmstad, Ad Hoc Member

Jeremy Harrison, CV Montessori

Mike Kohls, McKinley Board

Tim Leibham, Administration

Pete Riley, McKinley Head of Instruction/  
Co-Chair

Absent: Derick Black, Tracy Bush, Doug Diermeier, Melissa Greer, Aaron Harder, Todd Johnson, and Mike Kohls

## **1. REVIEW LEAP (CHARTER/CHOICE) POLICY REVISION**

Board Policy 332 has a new name: Learning Environments and Partnerships (LEAP) Committee as well as two other revisions reflecting the makeup of the committee determined by the Board of Education, the committee and the Superintendent. The revisions are highlighted on the attached document and was approved at the August 15, 2016 Board Meeting.

## **2. REVIEW INNOVATION ZONE PROPOSAL PROCESS**

- Imagination Narrative - Step 1: Feedback has been positive on this step; we will add the LEAP policy if mailed out.
- Innovation Zone Program Structure - Step 2: Combined former Steps 2 and 3. This will explain the process and assist with organizing thoughts when writing the proposal.
- Innovation Zone Performance Agreement - Step 3: This will provide an itemized list of autonomies requested by the proposer(s).

These three steps would be part of the Rules attached to Policy 332 and also the committee membership and functions.

### **3. RACE TO NOWHERE – DOCUMENTARY PUBLIC VIEWING**

Tim Leibham shared the trailer of the 2009 documentary, Race to Nowhere, and then discussed the possibility of sharing this with staff, students/families and possibly neighboring school districts. (We/Memorial owns the copyright.) This documentary reflects how schools/students are racing for recognition on common standards that causes narrow perspective on learning. Committee members were receptive to running three sessions during September, October and/or November in the Little Theatre at Memorial High School. Once dates are set, Tim will send out information to district staff (District Update) and parents (Partnership Coordinators' newsletters).

### **4. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP AND STRUCTURE**

The members talked about the membership and structure of the committee specifically having one main group and three subgroups:

1. Communications/Marketing
2. Committee Facilitation Team
3. Innovation Zone Proposal Process Guide Team

The main committee, consisting of two BOE members, two Charter Board members, Executive Director of Administration, two Charter School Principals, four district certified staff, two community members and Ad Hoc members as needed, will meet the second Tuesday of each month.

The three independent sub groups would be coordinated and by the Executive Director of Administration to assist with certain aspects. It was suggested to inquire if someone from the main committee can be part of the District Communications Committee.

### **5. NEW IZ PROPOSAL OVERVIEW – TO BE CONSIDERED AT SEPT MEETING**

The committee will consider and ask for feedback on two proposals. One submitted by Amber Dernbach (Hmong immersion), Memorial teacher, and the second submitted by South Middle School (much like the ARCTIC Zone). Tim Leibham shared UWEC is currently offering a certificate/minor in Hmong studies. They have approval to implement a Hmong studies major. Students would experience cultural immersion in the Hmong community. This is the first proposal coming from the community.

### **6. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2016, at 4:00 pm, in Room 123B.**