

BLT MINUTES

Thurgood Marshall BLT Minutes

August 31, 2016

Detailed Attendance

(numbers below correspond to roles enumerated in "Membership" section of BLT Bylaws)

Present (9):

- 1a. Principal Katie May (permanent)
- 1b. Asst Principal Sabrina Kovacs-Storlie (permanent)
2. Primary Classroom Rep Rob Long (first year)
3. Intermediate Classroom Rep Laurie Jensen (first year)
4. Special Ed Rep Katie Humphreys (second year)
5. General Ed Classroom Rep Cora Glass (first year)
6. Specialist Rep Meghan Kaloper (first year)
7. Classified Rep Catherine Nagle (second year)
- 9c. HCC Parent Rep Bill Brewster (second year) – Note Taker

Absent (3):

8. SEA Rep TBD
- 9a. Special Ed Parent Rep Noelle Mathias (second year)
- 9b. General Ed Parent Rep TBD
- [10. At-Large Parent Rep TBD if nec.]

Two-thirds Quorum? YES

Approval of Minutes

Approved minutes from 14 June (final meeting of 2015-16 year) with no changes or edits.

Norms

See below

New Business

-- Introductions and Icebreaker

1. Went around the table and everybody introduced themselves and their role.
2. Discussed open positions:
 - General Ed Parent Rep: Original nominee underwent several life changes, no longer available. Need to recruit or nominate new candidate(s).
 - SEA (union) Rep: can be any union member? Or must be already-designated union rep for whole school?
 - At-Large Parent Rep: May not be necessary if General Ed Parent Rep adequately reflects ethnic/racial diversity of school community.
3. Icebreaker: "I Have Never" game adapted for BLT. Everybody starts with 3 candies, take turns saying something you've never done, if anybody else has done it they give the speaker 1 candy, winner is the person with most candies after all rounds completed.

-- Annual Review and Discussion of BLT Role and Documents (as usual at summer BLT Retreat). All items discussed as full group; no differentiated tasks or breaking up into small groups.

1. Role: Principal responsibility is Academic Plan for whole school. Goals are to: include input from others (esp. constituents), dovetail with other school-wide initiatives, stay focused on BLT-specific responsibilities.
2. Decision-Making Matrix: Reviewed and approved with minor changes and edits. BLT has:
 - Decision-Making Responsibility on: Professional Development, CSIP, School Climate, Vision/Mission/Goals.
 - Input on: Budget, Community Partners, Non-Mandated Curriculum, Discipline Policy, Field Trips.
 - No Input on: Calendar of School Events, Daily Schedule, Grants, Hiring, PTSA-Sponsored Events, School Tours, Safety, Staffing Assignments, Student Assignments, Assemblies.
3. BLT Norms: Katie asked team to circle favorite/most important norm, and cross out any that seemed irrelevant or unnecessary. Reviewed and approved with minor changes and edits.
4. BLT Bylaws: Reviewed and approved with minor changes and edits – approved by consensus.
 - Edited sections include: Mission Statement, Norms, Membership, Roles/Responsibility, Meeting Schedule, Meeting Agenda, Decision Making, Amendments to Bylaws.
 - Longer discussion of section Election of BLT Members, esp. with regard to General Ed Parent Rep

Pup Press to express interest. Sabrina, Rob, and Bill volunteered to form subcommittee to review any submissions or expressions of interest.

- Also affirmed text of Bylaw 1c of this section: in case of no applications, BLT will recruit based on diversity. And although there is a preference for new voices to cycle through the BLT, there are no term limits. Current/past members may be nominated for re-election.
5. School-wide Goals: Handed out. Drafted by Katie based on SPS Goals for 2016-17, has already been discussed with staff.
 6. 2016-17 Meeting Schedule: Reviewed and approved with no changes or edits. As suggested and partially implemented last year, includes subcommittee meetings (Principal and Parent Reps only) for airing parent concerns expressed to appropriate representatives.

Next Meeting

- Tue 4 Oct, 4:00-5:30pm. First of two meetings on CSIP.
- At this meeting, we will review last year's CSIP Goals, check for fit with current thinking and initiatives, make edits and suggest improvements for this year's version. Reminder that the objective is to consider overall intent/goals and give feedback on big-picture level. Detailed editing not possible due to clunky interface and various district mandates.
- Katie and Sabrina will then incorporate feedback into draft and refine with full staff. FYI: Second CSIP meeting (Nov) will mainly be for review of final draft and approval.
- From previous meeting: Finalized versions of BLT documents (which were reviewed and discussed at Retreat) will be handed out to all members. Also hand out binders to new members.
- If time allows: any parent concerns that arise from Parent Rep subcommittee meeting in Sept?
- Note-Taker for Oct meeting TBD.