

Equity Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2017

Members Present:

- Co-Chairs: Annette Dabney, Randy Masten
- Administrative Staff: Anna Stubblefield, Leah Wisdom, Mark Preut, Myron Graber
- School Board: Jessica Beeson, Melissa Johnson
- Teaching staff: Lindsay Buck, Kel Catterton, Kiley Lockett
- Community members: Gary Schmidt, Alan Hollinger, John Rury, Peter Karman, Sarah Vandermast; Paula Smith, Maria Alonso Luaces, Amy Wolf

Meeting called to order by Annette Dabney.

Agenda Items:

- II. Roll Call—It was decided that all members will be polled at least two times to see if everyone on the list has a commitment to continue on the EAC. We need a total member count to ensure we will have a quorum of 50%+1 for voting purposes.
- III. Kel Catterton moved/ Kiley Lockett seconded that the October 16, 2017 minutes be accepted as read. Motion carried.
- IV. Anna Stubblefield provided information from the board meeting on the SMS name change. Continued discussion will be held and it was suggested that two separate groups be made to address the feedback and name change proposals. Jessica Beeson stated that the BOE is in agreement of the name change, but further discussion on what name will be chosen is pending. Annette Dabney also mentioned that Dr. Jones stated that SMS is looking into developing a curriculum on Haskell history and the donation of Native American land to SMS/Broken Arrow elementary school.
- V. Annette and Randy provided an overview of the meeting with Police Chief Burns, Sergeant Amy Rhoads and Captain Brixus. Sergeant Rhoads confirmed that all SRO's are trained in trauma care, etc. Dr. Burns stated that if an SRO is called in to assist with a disciplinary problem the SRO will intervene in a manner in which they are trained. Randy mentioned that what we observe or feel to be unnecessary force or restraint of a student by an SRO may be considered appropriate and in line with their police training. There are 4 SROs in the district and they are housed in their own offices at the two high schools. These officers are stretched thin when called out to the middle schools. Police Burns shared that in some districts the SROs are paid through the district and if additional funds could be accessed there would be

better “buy-in” from the police department. According to the police department, LMCMS reports student incidents to SROs at a considerably higher frequency than any other building in the district. Many times, it appears, this incident to SROs should be disciplinary actions handled by school administrators and/or parents. Randy questioned that the police are coming to schools for arrests. Mark P. stated that arrests are rare in the high schools and not executed at school. Police do come to transport students to Bert Nash and for investigations. There was a consensus that there is a need to collect data (equity data) and ways to track SRO involvement. Randy mentioned we need to resend out the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) policy. Randy also cited other policies. Kel also shared that the SROs provide middle school curriculum presentations to students through the Social Studies unit (i.e., appropriate use of social media, etc.) and the SROs also do a one hour presentation with 8th graders on the use of cell phones, sexual offenses, the law, etc.

- VI. Committee Reports were shared. Concerns were brought up on the time spent on committee reports and the time spent on data. Maria commented that she felt too much emphasis is placed on data and national trends for data and models are better to review. Discussion was also held that equity and achievement data should include both the elementary and secondary schools. A focus on the early primary grades was emphasized as research has shown that the achievement gap begins in kindergarten. Anna reported that a LPS team has been started to look at kindergarten data and how the achievement gap widens and if the gap get worse or better.

Concerns were mentioned on how long the group took to discuss committee reports and very little time was left for committee meetings. Annette mentioned that most committees have only met once. John R. stated that the EAC is new and still figuring things out. Peter K. suggested that the chairs use time slots/limits on the agenda to help with managing time. Annette also stressed the importance of reading e-mails and attachments prior to the EAC group and committee meetings so that all members are prepared and our time is used more efficiently.

- VII. Other news: Join the Lawrence BOE and Superintendent of Schools at the **Community Conversation to be held on Thursday, December 14th from 6:30-8:30 pm at the Lawrence Public library Auditorium, 707 Vermont Street.**

Next meeting: Monday, December 18th, 2017 at 5:30-7 pm. Randy will chair.

