

School Council Minutes 2-5-19

1. Public Comment: none
2. Rotating responsibility for note-taking: Nira P.
3. Previous meeting minutes: approved
4. Update on School Improvement Plan (SIP): Climate/Community goal recently shared with Lawrence staff in restorative circle format. Good feedback received: a) format of SIP is confusing/hard to follow, and b) there was uncertainty about meaning of existing action steps. Feedback will be integrated into 3-year SIP draft. Math department is working on draft of math goal, building on presentation last week to community. Wish to create a narrative regarding “where we are now” and “where we want to be in three years” in math at Lawrence, leading to action steps/metrics. Plan to have draft ready for March meeting. Literacy team also creating a similar “where we are/where we want to be” outline.
5. March School Council meeting will include School Committee members—will plan to share our small group work and review draft SIP goals.
6. Small groups:
 - Student Handbook:** still plowing through the old handbook.
 - Arrival and Dismissal Procedures:** getting very close to creating a survey. Fine-tuned the questions. Carolyn/Chris/Laura will think through platform options. Consider linking this to planned DICE survey—send draft questions to Chris D for consideration (but may be better to do the DICE survey via PTO).
 - Work with DICE Committee:**
 - DICE community dialogue/ADL presentation on implicit bias is tomorrow, Feb 6th, 6:30. Peter C. will reach out to Kirsten A. about AV needed. Will send out PTO blast tonight. For future evening meetings, need to arrange child care.
 - “Decision-making pilot” meeting on MSBR (Mindfulness-based Stress Reduction) is scheduled with Ted Meissner for Weds, Feb 27th 2:45 pm, Lawrence library. Rhodinne W./Peter C./Heather H./Nira P./Chris D. can all come. Nira will send an email invitation to key stakeholders. Questions raised in discussion of future training: Should we focus first on parents or teachers? Or should we have a mixed training (parents and teachers both invited)? Should this training be integrated into the school day so that all faculty can attend?
 - Quilt project: waiting for funding from Sup. Bott, ? via Brookline Community Foundation; should we set dates for the project before funding locked down? Should whittle down the funding “ask” to the minimum in the hopes of getting this off the ground. Discussed whether this activity could be moved to the fall, both in terms of crowded event schedule this spring and funding. An additional benefit of moving this to the fall is that we could display quilt for the whole year and build community at the beginning of the year. Could also involve the Visual Arts Committee (they also have some funding for bringing in an artist)—could help make this sustainable for years to come.

- Lawrence Reads, May 14th: need to publicize on the parent side. Kathy Moriarty working on ordering books—she has asked teachers who has copies so that she can order accordingly.
- Communication with staff: “Lawrence Connected” is put together by Principal Crowley—deadline for submissions is Thurs pm—comes out to teachers between Friday and Sunday. Includes daily calendar for 2 weeks, and future events. PTO newsletter doesn’t seem to get to all staff—e.g. Rhodinne Wang gets it and Peter Cipparone does not! (Heather will reach out to Harold again about staff receipt of the PTO newsletter). There is also a staff email listserve, but best to focus announcements via Lawrence Connected and PTO email.
- Brookline Talks (possible topic: Trauma-sensitive schools)—will schedule for next fall, to avoid overload this spring.
- Boston Bowl event has been scheduled! May 19th. Organized by the Brookline to Boston team, led by Jessica Gordon, Vicki Lariccia, and Maggie Russell. Will need to publicize via PTO and Lawrence Connected. Vicki working on flyer.
- International Night/Family Fun Night: April 26th
- Faculty discussing readings from “Everyday Anti-racism” at faculty meeting—action items, case study