

Members Present:

Laura Koplow, Rhodinne Wang, Monica Crowley, Peter Cipparone, Maisha Rounds, Heather Hoganson, Florrie Ives, Carolyn Mansfield, Nira Pollock, and Chris Deister

District Guests:

Nicole Gittens (Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning), Susan Ditkoff (School Committee), Barbara Schiutto (School Committee), Helen Charlupski (School Committee)

Today's Scribe: Chris Deister

Meeting began with a new agenda and a motion to approve last week's notes (approved).

We had guests from the district today. We did not change the meeting agenda, but Monica spent some time to get the guests oriented.

Monica discussed our goals for School Council this year. She explained the time range of our School Improvement Plan goals, and the desire to include the teachers and specialists in the drafting of goals. Laura is working with math specialists to come up with a forward looking agenda. The preliminary work was presented to PTO last month, which appears to have been positive.

Monica is going to send draft proposals from these groups to the Council for their comments soon. Goals will be shared with the broader staff and feedback incorporated. Monica believes we are on track for June to have the School Improvement Plan finished. Monica mentioned that the Council suggested the School Improvement Plan cover the next three years.

Monica introduced the Council's three subgroups, the purposes of them, and the progress made so far.

After hearing about the groups, Susan Ditkoff mentioned that the School Committee were also concerned about pick-up/drop-off procedures. A subcommittee of School Committee is discussing these matters. She, also reminded us about the district-wide conversation related to equity etc.

We then moved into the groups, our guests distributed themselves across the groups.

In the arrival/dismissal procedures group,

Monica wanted to offer more discussion for Committee questions and concerns.

Monica sent people to their small groups.

Small Group:

Heather C. asked what the norms are currently in the building.

Carolyn asked Heather why the district started their discussion. She said CCS policy was the catalyst, in short, there has been concerns about the policy. CCS is discussing their policy and so is Runkle.

Carolyn asked for clarification of CCS policy.

Wednesdays are open (bottom floor) but apparently parents do not come, because they were used to just de

Discussion about traffic. Brief. Monica mentioned that it was floated to make Francis one-way. Runkle has one way street.

Discussion about question about restroom.

Laura is going to get a draft out. Monica is going to write the framing and the why.

Arrival/Dismissal Group Update:

The group agreed to work off-line to have a survey ready before the next meeting. The group discussed with Helen Charlupski the reasons & motivations behind the School Committee taking up the topic of arrival/dismissal procedures and what progress they have made. The Committee has just begun the conversations. The group also discussed issues related to car traffic.

DICE Group Update:

Quilt has been moved to Fall. Big grant was approved. One grade will add to quilt each year.

Update about Mindfulness: training on a grade? Pilot for a grade or two? 5th or 6th grade staff?

Monica mentioned a well-received program at CCS that was used to have MGH's Benson-Henery train staff for a day or two.

Handbook Group Update:

Goal is to cut it in half. How to disseminate it. Discussion is now centered on making a draft.