

Alice Deal Middle School
LSAT Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2019

In Attendance:

Diedre Neal
Patrick Rottman
Marcus Moore
Rich Mitchell
Megan Maples
Melanie Parish (Teacher)
Arielle Alphonse (Non-Instructional Staff)
Jordan Hensley (Teacher)
Julie Chen (ADCA Representative)
Lisa Stone (Parent Representative)
Tracy Scarrow (Parent Representative)
Sara Tobin (Executive Secretary, Parent Representative)

Opening of Meeting:

The meeting was called to order at 7:36 a.m. As a first order of business, Ms. Tobin presented the draft agenda for the meeting. Ms. Scarrow made a motion to approve, which was seconded. The minutes were reviewed, and Ms. Chen made a motion to approve which was seconded.

Chair's Report:

In Ms. Kovner's absence, Ms. Scarrow reported there will be three vacant spots on the LSAT as the terms of several parents on the LSAT are expiring. She said the LSAT is working with the ADCA to move forward with elections. The ADCA is hosting a coffee next Thursday for interested parents and an email is going out next week. Ms. Parish thought it would be a good idea for team leaders to send an email to parents as well.

Principals' Report:

Staffing Update – Ms. Neal stated the school is in good shape as far as staffing for next year.

Enrollment Update – Ms. Neal commented that only 651 students are enrolled for the fall. Ms. Maples broke down the numbers as follows:

249 – incoming 6th graders
202 – rising 7th graders
200 – rising 8th graders

Ms. Neal said additional emails will be deployed to motivate families to re-enroll. It was suggested that ADCA send a stand-alone email on how important it is to register

now and how easy the front office has made the process (enrollment forms are pre-printed). Ms. Chen will follow up with the ADCA.

Upcoming events – Ms. Neal said the ADCA was very supportive during teacher appreciation week by hosting a breakfast and massages for teachers and staff.

PARCC testing – 8th graders are testing this week; 6th graders testing next week
May 15 – Progress reports will be sent home as it is the mid-point for Term 4. For those students who need to be retained due to poor grades, APs are reaching out to families to set them up for summer school.

May 23 – Spring Concert

May 23 – 7th grade community service

May 24 – 8th grade community service

June 11 – 6th grader community service

May 29, 20, 31 – 6th grade musical – Willy Wonka

June 4 – National Junior Honor Society Induction Ceremony

Ms. Neal thought the school did a better job with organizing applications for National Junior Honor Society, but next year hopes to improve communication with families and disseminate requirements in a timelier fashion.

Ms. Neal said there were three musicals this year and wondered if it is too many. She wants to re-evaluate.

Technology Subcommittee Update:

Ms. Chen reported that comments to Grosso's Digital Equity Bill were passed along to different constituents and then submitted to Mr. Grosso, which will be posted to the Deal website shortly. She added the Mayor/Chancellor know they need to do a better job of communicating with parents. In order to increase outreach, they will:

1. form a small core group (Melody Molinoff agreed to be Deal's representative)
2. form a larger group for DCPS
3. increase LSAT's engagement

Ms. Neal added that every 6th grade classroom will be equipped with laptops, but they won't be able to take them home. There were several questions relating to technology. Ms. Neal will invite Mr. McClary to our next LSAT meeting to explain what technology will look like at our school for the 2019-20 school year and to answer our questions. She asked the LSAT to send any technology related questions to Ms. Chen.

Ward3EdNet Mtg:

Ms. Scarrow said the next meeting is Monday, May 13 at 7 p.m. Ms. Scarrow will send agenda.

Personnel Subcommittee Update:

Ms. Tobin reported that half of the registrants showed up for job fair, but there were some good quality candidates. Ms. Neal added she would like to change a few things to help improve the next job fair. She said it was great to have the parent interviewers there. It was suggested that it would be helpful if registrants had to sign up for time slots and upload their resumes. The personnel committee had a long list of questions and it might be good to prioritize them as it's hard to get through all questions in the 30-minute designated interview time. Ms. Neal said she would like to hold another job fair in June. Ms. Neal added she would like to put together a promotional video for job fairs. Ms. Neal will let Ms. Tobin know about upcoming interviews so she can lock in parent interviewers.

Follow Up Items:

Ms. Stone said she needs to solidify a date with Ms. Chambliss for the DGS mtg. Ms. Scarrow reported Ms. Kovner has a request into Councilmember Cheh's office to schedule her school-readiness tour in late June so we have the whole summer to follow up on items before the start of 2019-20 SY.

Safety and Security:

Ms. Neal discussed she is getting the support she needs. She has requested two additional security guards. Ms. Parish thought it would be good for teachers to get training on how to recognize kids who are experiencing trauma. Ms. Alphonse thought it was important for security guards to be trained on how to de-escalate situations better. All comments were noted by Ms. Neal.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sara Tobin