



November 2016 Meeting Minutes

Educational Services Center, Bloomington Public School District
Bloomington, Minnesota
November 2, 2016
11:30 a.m.

Attendees: Mauricio Barrientos (KHS), Mary Jo Bellinger (PB), Sue Bizal (HC), Sheri Brezinka (PTSA Council Treasurer), Roberto Cantu (Principal PB), Les Fujitake (Superintendent), Tanna Hayek (PAC), Brian Ingemann (Principal OGM), Rick Kaufman (Community Relations), Jeremy Kuhns (Principal OM), Molly Lueck (PTSA Council Secretary), Wendy Marczak (BFT), Kate Martin (Community Relations), Carissa Meierdierks Wall (NH), Kelsey Nash (Curriculum & Instruction Specialist), Jill Oldenburg (OM), Jennifer Oliva (RV), Tiffany Shermak (PTSA Council President), Jim Sorum (School Board), Heather Starks (PTSA Council VP), Jason Thiel (WW), Gina Vozka (OGM), Megan Willrett (Principal VVM).

Welcomed by Tiffany Shermak and introductions were made around the room. A motion to approve the October 2016 minutes was made by Jill Oldenburg, seconded by Carissa Meierdierks Wall. Minutes approved.

Tiffany Shermak, facilitated the feedback loop:

1. The Centennial Birthday Party and All Class Reunion on May 19th will raise some funds but is intended to be a celebration rather than a fundraiser. Please forward stories and photos To Kate or Rick.
2. Technology in the classroom tour was informational and some reps will be passing word along to their school's PTSA for fund support.

Les Fujitake, presented the Superintendent's report:

1. The School Board swore in two student reps, Allie Andersen (JHS) and Ethan Skophammer (KHS). They will attend board meetings on the 4th Monday of the month and give reports about school activities. The students will be non-voting members.
2. October 1st is used yearly to compare student enrollment numbers and our district is at 10,149 for 2016, an increase from last year.
3. Bloomington has had a 30 year partnership with Richfield combining Early Childhood, Adult Enrichment, etc. Richfield contributed money toward this partnership and Bloomington was in charge of the administration. Richfield is now looking into strengthening their own identity, has conducted an audit and is considering separating these services from Bloomington. The Metro South Adult Basic Education partnership between Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina and Richfield (BEER) would also be affected by this decision. A December decision is pending.
4. Bloomington voters passed a capital projects bond referendum in 2013-14 for technology and safety improvements. This replaced a 2007 referendum that wasn't due to expire until 2017-18 but the vote was moved up to separate it from the levy referendum due to expire 2018-19. The vote to renew the levy referendum will occur November of 2017. Unlike cities and counties, school districts need voter approval to continue levy (=learning) and bond (=building) referendums. Money from bond referendums cannot be used for operating expenses.
5. Bloomington is considering forming an Advocacy Council to unify the voices of our constituents to effectively address the state legislature for adequate funding. Other districts have formed advocacy councils. If this council is formed, the district would be seeking out members as well as a council leader. The district would support this council and may consider the leader a paid position. The School Board will vote in December on moving forward with formation of this council.

Rick Kaufman, presented the community relations update:

1. Hand-out of 2016 Parent-Teacher Conference Schedules for our schools.
2. Heather Starks is the district's calendar committee parent rep for 2017-18.

3. Peachjar will launch December 6th at no cost to the district. There will be training for one staff member from each school. Each school will have its own holding site and parents will receive a weekly email digest to inform them of new flyers posted to the school's site. A principal's meeting will be held to train them on Peachjar and determine which individual will get the training from their building. All Peachjar information will be located in the HUB as well.

4. Kate informed us of the rescheduled realtor's workshop for November 30th. This workshop stemmed from the focus group held with realtors last year. An update from this workshop will be presented at a future council meeting.

Roberto Cantu, presented the Principal's report:

1. Technology in the classroom and how to use it was a topic presented during MEA. Middle schools worked on NTL (New Technologies for Learning) and rolling out PGPs (Personal Growth Plans) in their buildings. Teachers from the middle schools also had a chance to meet with similar subject peers from other buildings and share strategies. Student engagement was a topic of discussion.

2. The "Voices Heard: A Conversation Between Youth and Cops" dinner and performance will be held on November 2nd at KHS. The Joint Community Police Partnership's Multicultural Advisory Committee (MAC) Of Bloomington and Police Multicultural Advisory Committee of Richfield (PMAC) are collaborating with Richfield Career Education Program, Richfield High School, KHS and JHS to host this event.

Sheri Brezinka, presented the PTSA Council Treasurer's report:

1. Dues letters have gone out. Expenses for the academy and speaker series have been paid.

Tiffany Shermak, presented the PTSA Council President's report:

1. Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) is replacing No Child Left Behind. The focus is to ensure a well-rounded education and using effective means of measuring improvement and student success. Much of MN was already implementing many aspects of ESSA when it was passed. Minnesota does a good job of dividing resources. Teacher diversity is one aspect of focus. The Minnesota Department of Education is hosting stakeholder meetings. Tiffany and Heather attended one and encouraged everyone to participate.

Heather Starks, presented the PTSA Council VP's report:

1. A workgroup for future Speaker Series events is being formed. Please contact Heather if you are interested. The January 19th event "Brain Research in Children" will be the third of four series for 2016-17.

Kelsey Nash, presented the Differentiated Learning update:

1. Kelsey is one of five on a team dedicated to helping kids learn in the new mold of the world-wide marketplace. Differentiation is a teacher's proactive response to learners and helping them to shape their mindsets to "Yes, I can." and "Yes, this is possible.". If students believe they can learn, than they can and they will. Empowering kids is the core of this and allows teachers to put back the art and love of teaching into their classroom. Professional development occurs in each building and teachers can also opt to meet with Kelsey's team.

2. There are five principles of differentiated learning: 1. Environment 2. Quality curriculum 3. Assessment to inform teaching and learning 4. Instructional response to student variance and 5. Leading students and managing routines. Depending on student readiness, interest and learning profile, teachers can differentiate through content, process, product and affect/environment.

3. One model of differentiated learning is station rotation. Student are rotated through online instruction, teacher led instruction and collaborative activities with fellow students. A flexible learning model includes flexible spaces for individual, small group and large group activities.

4. Weaving differentiated learning into BPS involves: 1. Establishing a collaborative culture 2. Examining prioritized standards for endurance and readiness 3. Aligning essential standards to units 4. Developing formative assessments and 5. Analyzing assessments for rigor, validity and alignment with common summative assessments.

5. BPS timeline: 2016/17 -math & world language, 2017/18 - health & PE, 2018/19 - arts & music, 2019/20 – science.

Next meeting topic: Personal Growth Plan Update & Pathways to Graduation Results, December 7th @ 11:30AM

Next meeting location: ESC Room 610A

Respectfully submitted by Molly Lueck, PTSA Council Secretary