

December 10, 2015 WACS Board Minutes

Attendance list attached

- I. Call to Order/Adoption of November Minutes (7:00-7:05)
 - A. Motion by Terrell, second Peter, unanimous approval.

- II. Principal's Report (7:05-7:25) – Pete Settelmayer and Delana Reeves
 - A. Delana Staffing Update
 1. 3 new hires described: teacher in residence (middle school), part-time special ed, and Kindergarten paraprofessional
 - B. Upcoming dates reviewed including Dec 2-17th second MAP assessment, Dec 21-Jan 1 Christmas break (Jan 5 first day back), Jan 6-Feb 29 registration, and March 12th lottery.

- III. Milestones Presentation and Board Questions (7:25-8:10)
 - A. Chair Terrell suggests that results were not as hoped; suggests keeping sight of vision when considering and placing trust in school staff to steer/respond, but also voicing concerns and making sure that all questions are answered. Noted that we cannot discuss individual student results in a board meeting, individual child concerns best addressed with staff one-on-one.
 - B. Pete, Delana
 1. Milestones background from Pete: replaces CRCT; recent results are from spring '15 (then 3rd, now 4th only grade tested) are the second testing after the fall 2014 "hold harmless" year.
 2. Milestones shows WACS lagging especially in science/social studies. Note that MAP assessments give real-time feedback on math/language arts, but real-time science monitoring wasn't previously utilized. We are currently adding MAP science for 3rd/4th grade.
 3. Typical growth 10-15 RIT points per year and seeing this so far with new strategies put into place after early MAP tests revealed concerns and specialized strategies put into place.
 4. Growth versus achievement percentile matrix described and Pete describes how used to monitor teacher effectiveness.
 5. Discussion of strategies:
 - a. Significant growth seems to be happening in 4th grade first half of this year primarily based on 5:1 student to staff ratio with additional staff supports. Also departmentalization in 4th has helped.
 - b. Second to third grade transition focusing on difficult nonfiction texts that are a great leap/struggle because read along and not read to for the first time.
 - c. Prioritization of K-2 math/reading at grade level because foundational for all subjects in later grades – and where it's not happening we intervene.
 6. December MAP assessment should show growth, will be discussed January '16. Next Milestones assessment spring '16 and results anticipated summer '16.

IV. Community Q&A regarding Milestones (8:10-8:35)

- A. Discussion of how to describe growth with community before spring '16 Milestone assessment is ready, which is anticipated to show growth.
- B. Discussion of how percentile matrices are used.
- C. Question of what goal should be set (for instance top 5 APS school or meet state average overall). Response that student growth goals are most important, bringing everybody up rather than focus on the overall average score.

V. Community Council Update (8:35-8:45) – Heidi

- A. Kudos on 12/9
- B. Feb/Mar Hawks game spirit night pending

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Finance Committee (8:45-9:00) describes financial results which are above forecast YTD.
- B. Budget draft is ready and to be reviewed by Finance Committee with draft presented to board in January.

VII. Move to Executive Session

- A. Motion by Terrell, second Hannah, unanimous approval.


VIII. Adjourn (9pm)

EXECUTIVE SESSION AFFIDAVIT
(AS REQUIRED UNDER O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b))


The undersigned presiding Board Officer of Westside Atlanta Charter School's Board of Directors, under oath, hereby states and certifies that at the Board meeting held on December 10, 2015, the following:

- 1) The Board properly entered executive session as permitted by O.C.G.A. § 50-14-3. The only matters discussed during such executive session of its meeting as allowable under O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2 and 50-14-3 were as follows:
 - () To consult and meet with legal counsel pertaining to pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings or other judicial actions;
 - () To discuss tax matters which are confidential by state law;
 - () To authorize negotiations to purchase, dispose of, or lease property;
 - () To authorize the ordering of an appraisal related to the acquisition or disposal of real estate;
 - () To enter into a contract to purchase, dispose of or lease property, subject to approval in a subsequent public vote;
 - () To enter into an option to purchase, dispose of, or lease real estate, subject to approval in a subsequent public vote;
 - To discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, hiring, disciplinary action or dismissal or periodic evaluation or rating of a public officer or employee, but not when receiving evidence or hearing argument on charges filed to determine disciplinary action;
 - () To discuss records (or portions thereof) exempt from public inspection or disclosure pursuant to Article 4 of Chapter 18 of Title 50.
- 2) To the best knowledge and belief of the undersigned, no other matters than those of a purely personal and/or nongovernmental nature were discussed during said executive session.
- 3) By executing this affidavit, the undersigned does hereby state that he/she in no way waives any rights granted under the 5th Amendment to the United States Constitution.
- 4) This affidavit is executed solely for the purpose of compliance with the mandate of O.C.G.A. § 50-14-4(b) and shall serve no other purpose.

This 10 day of December, 2015


PRESIDING OFFICER

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO
before me this 11th day of December, 2015


Notary Public
My commission expires:

