

Westside Atlanta Charter School Minutes
September 10, 2015

Present: Hannah, Cosey, Tonya, Kimere, Heather, Adrienne, Christian, Rosella, Kelly, Laura Flynn, Page, Ruby, Michelle, Heidi, Christie, Elizabeth, Jenny, Stanton, Tyler, Monica, Delana, Pete, William, Cobb, Julius, Julius II, John, Amy, Kelly, Heather, Stanton

- I. Call to Order/Adoption of August Minutes (7:00-7:05)
 - A. Motion by Cobb to approve August minutes, second Julius, unanimous approval.

- II. Principal's Report (7:05-7:35)
 - A. Dashboard
 1. Waiting List Update
 2. Hiring – 3 staff tweaks to be proposed during Finance report
 3. Events
 - I. Nov. 14th 10am-12noon Race Discussion at NW Library
 - I. Rac(e)ing to the Classroom – Race and Poverty staff book study
 - II. Sep. 26th Fun Run West Highlands

- III. 2015-2016 Testing Result Reporting Tutorial (7:35-8:05) (Note: Test results to be reported at October meeting)
 - A. MAP is a computer-adaptive, national norm-referenced test (similar ITBS) used by many public and private schools including Decatur City schools, Gwinnett County, Drew Charter, Westminster, and others. It's our personal test, not the same as Georgia Milestones state testing.
 - B. Westside's 4th graders are considered our Class of 2020 (8th grade graduation)
 - C. Acronyms:
 1. Measure of Academic Performance (MAP)
 2. Rausch Unit (RIT) = Long-term (4-year adjustments) indicator of average score by grade level and term (fall, mid-yr, EOY); allows you to determine an individual or group's grade-level performance (for instance a 3rd grader could be performing at 4th grade level for a subject)
 - I. Long Term Growth = 3-year trend (available for the first time June '16)
 - II. Cohort Growth
 - I. Free & Reduced Lunch
 - II. Race – Caucasian, African American
 3. National Percentile Ranking (NPR) = percentile of current testing period performance (of an individual or group) compared to all students at same grade level
 4. Full Academic Year (FAY) = 1 semester + 21 days ~ 111 days

- IV. Community Council, Title One Update (added to agenda through resolution by Hannah, second Stanton, unanimous approval)
 - A. Community Council
 - B. Curriculum Nights last month included childcare organized by Community Council
 - C. First meeting this year attended by 50 parents, best attendance so far
 - D. Upcoming
 - 1. Fun Run upcoming Sep 26th
 - 2. Open Houses begin planned
 - E. Title One
 - 1. Two families being assisted with housing
 - 2. One family leaving Westside, going away party in park

V. Committee Reports

- A. Finance Committee (8:05-8:20) – William
 - 1. \$156k budget surplus FY16 projected based on favorable QBE
 - 2. \$526k cash balance today, \$829k forecasted EOY
 - 3. \$24k net income actual August vs. \$21k budget
 - 4. Note about changes to Rollins relationship/fees, to be discussed in more detail at next meeting
 - 5. Audit is finished; awaiting state pension documentation rules and deadline pushed back to Nov 1.
 - 6. Motion by John for 3 hires requested by Pete and recommended by Finance Committee: School Operations Manager becomes full-time, part-time Special Ed hire, and Teacher in Residence to start second semester (up to \$48k annual increase to budget); second by Hannah; unanimous approval.
- B. Charter Renewal Working Group (8:20-8:35)
 - 1. Review of summer regression
 - I. Charter Renewal Working Group reviewed research and Westside before/after summer scores and noted a general lack of regression across all grades. Therefore based on parent feedback and this research the group recommends not implementing balanced calendar.
 - I. Plan to utilize summer program for targeted summer support.
 - II. Note regression 2nd->3rd grade two years in a row, which we believe results in change from questions being read to students to student-read tests, being investigated with MAP.
- C. Governance Committee (8:35-8:45)
 - 1. Next meeting moved to Wed, Oct 14th. Board members show up early 6pm for photos before meeting (no tank tops).
 - 2. Update on scheduling/training – board members check emails and respond to Hannah.