Linden Steam Academy

Governing Board Meeting

Linden STEAM Academy Library

January 25, 2016

**Call-to-Order: 5:50pm**

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| Boswell, Sarah (parent) | Present |
| Bransfield, Richard (principal) | Absent-Peter Dolan Standin |
| Marino, Scott (teacher) | Present |
| Coye, Kathleen (teacher) | Present |
| DeRuosi, David (superintendent) | Absent |
| Goldstein-Fghani, Susan (parent) | Absent |
| Federico, Margherita (parent) | Absent |
| Froio, John (school committee) | Absent |
| Gray, Rachana (parent) | Present |
| Leisk, Judy (teacher) | Present |
| Miller, Sonia (teacher) | Present |
| Mitala, Conrad (parent) | Absent |
| Page, Bonnie (MEA representative) | Present |
| Rittershaus, Elaine (teacher) | Present |
| Terban, Susan (teacher) | Present |
| Walsh, Callie | Absent |
| Young, Leonard (community member) | Present |

**Action Items**  
    
1. Public Comment:

1. AlphaBest Presentation

Jenny Copans (Site Director) & Heather Alfonso (U.S. Director of Operations)

* 1. LSA program has more teachers on staff than other after school programs within AlphaBest.
  2. Each day kids rotate through zones (Prior to 4:15 pickup)
     1. STEM
        1. Has struggled for integration with IT department.
           1. NOTE – TUFTS has complained about same problem.
        2. Rolling out wacky-tracks – building roller coasters etc.
        3. AlphaBest will be installing 10 laptops and kits for Animation Station and Lego robotics
     2. Arts
        1. Curriculum working well
        2. At end of year there will be a musical
     3. Language
        1. Started with sign language
        2. Mandarin
        3. French then Spanish
        4. They do have PLATO – for middle school possibility.
     4. Fitness/Wellness
  3. Point out that a lot of things still getting set up – should see a lot of new programs rolling out soon.
     1. Principal has been in touch regarding software and has links to software in e-mail.
     2. Alphabest will share software with teachers. Lego software limited to number of licenses, but can use animation software site wide.
  4. Request for more detailed schedule.
     1. Will send to Chairs so we can post on GB site
  5. Middle School Piece
     1. Right now only have 7 kids.
     2. Goal to get more kids.
     3. Will give to middle School survey
        1. Will go through student council / see what kids interested in.
        2. Focus on Club aspect and try to build clubs on what kids interested in and what teachers interested in.
  6. Summer/Vacation Camp
     1. Lots of teachers want time off, therefore not enough teachers for number of students to over vacation camp; will be finding staff to be sure to offer this.
     2. Will be offering summer staff.
  7. Clubs, which occur after 4:15pm. are getting set up.
     1. Currently there are 9 total clubs across different grade levels.

2. Vote to approve minutes:

1. Elaine Motion to approve December minutes with corrections. Second by Bonnie. Motion Passes.

3. Old Business:

1. Elliott School Innovation Visit - ACTION PLAN
   1. How can we implement ideas we liked here?
   2. Principal has meeting with Tufts – behavior management training
      1. Start training behavior management training with Tufts
      2. 5-10 Tufts students; round table with students and teachers
      3. Like idea of 20 days of Behavior management at beginning of school year
         1. Pick 5 school "rules"
      4. Principal will lead this effort
      5. AlphaBest is willing to share their behavior management plan.
   3. Flowing classrooms - Plan for all inclusive rooms.
      1. SPED department and superintendent meeting this/next week.
      2. A few years down the road we hope to have situations where a 4th grade advanced math student could rotate into 6th grade math.

4. Subcommittee reports

1. Management and Operations.
   1. Motion made by Judy to move into executive session. Seconded by Sonia. Motion Passes by majority vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION 6:35P

b. Sonia motion to end executive session; Judy Second.

END EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:20pm

1. Family and Community Engagement
   1. Sarah/Conrad/Susan are current parents up for election.
   2. Have last years form update to send out
      1. will update to include request for headshot to print with ballot.
   3. ACTION – ALL send headshot/Bio for website
   4. Exhibition night – volunteers to run election night GB table.
      1. Alphabest table?
      2. Partner with student council to collect donations for maker space.
   5. Working on reaching out to Student Council about International or Cultural night
   6. Revisit idea of Sponsor Wall
      1. Business in Malden can donate money
      2. Direct to Donor's Choose and can recognize on our sponsor wall
      3. Letter is being drafted to send to local businesses.
   7. GE coming to Boston
      1. As this company is coming to Boston; could we try to be their partner with low income students.
      2. GE already has an offices in Lynn and Burlington and tend to focus on those communities.
   8. GB should make school committee meetings a priority and bring kids to meetings
      1. One school bring kids to board for a 5 min presentation
      2. Suggest the students working on the Genius Project – could present at school committee.
      3. Goes through superintendent report; need to request ahead of time
2. Curriculum and Instruction
   1. PD for report cards is needed. We need to talk to administration to make this happen.

5. Principal's Report

1. IRS letter came for TAX ID – no number received
   1. IRS informed us we need to incorporate school.
2. Wednesday is the meeting about going totally inclusive for school.
   1. PACE classroom added this week with a new teacher and paraprofessional
3. Vice Principal Dolan has safety under control
   1. Held discussion on MA area bomb threats going on lately.

6. Adjournment

1. Motion to adjourn made by Sarah and seconded by Lenny.
2. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm