**March 11, 2014 6:50 AM Linden STEAM Academy Library**

Attendees:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sarah Boswell  Richard Bransfield  Diana Buonopane  Laura Degelmann  David DeRuosi  Susan Goldstein Fghani | Present  Present  Present  Present  Absent  Present | John Froio  Deborah Gesualdo  Rachana Gray  Jocelyn Ken  Alisha King  Judy Leisk | Absent  Present  Absent  Present  Absent  Present | Sonia Miller  Conrad Mitala  Elaine Rittershaus  Franklin Shearer  Susan Terban  Leonard Young | Present  Absent  Present  Present  Present  Present |

**March 18, 2014 6:50 AM Linden STEAM Academy Library**

Attendees:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sarah Boswell  Richard Bransfield  Diana Buonopane  Laura Degelmann  David DeRuosi  Susan Goldstein Fghani | Present  Present  Present  Present  Absent  Present | John Froio  Deborah Gesualdo  Rachana Gray  Jocelyn Ken  Alisha King  Judy Leisk | Absent  Present  Present  Absent  Absent  Present | Sonia Miller  Conrad Mitala  Elaine Rittershaus  Franklin Shearer  Susan Terban  Leonard Young | Present  Absent  Present  Present  Present  Present |

1. **Public Comment/Connections** None
2. **Vote to approve December Meeting Minutes**

**Motion**: Franklin Shearer moved to approve the minutes.

**Seconded**: Leonard Young

**Motion carried.**

1. **Old Business**
   1. **Teacher Work Day –** Item passed on to the Meeting and Operations Committee to draft a proposal to go to the union to Unit A for a vote.
   2. **Parameters for the make-up and size of sub-committees (Vote)**

Parameters for the make-up and size of the subcommittees tabled for future discussion at the end of the year.

* 1. **Update on possible future school visits** - .

The 5-7 assistant principal has contacted the Eliot School in the North End, also an innovation school. It was suggested that we attend one of their governing board meetings as well.

* 1. **Tufts University partnership to expand engineering in LSA curriculum –** Tufts University partnership: Four graduate student teachers are here for the entire school year. Novel Engineering, grades K, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 read picture books and novels, identify a problem and through the engineering process solve the problem using recycled materials. The seventh grade ELA class will present completed projects in the auditorium on Thursday, March 12 at 1:00 PM to invited guests.   
       
     STOMP from Tufts University pairs engineering students weekly with fourth grade classes integrating engineering into the curriculum. This week they will use button batteries to create interactive greeting cards.
  2. **Preparing for 2015 Governing Board elections** – Elections are held on Exhibition night. The date for Exhibition night is being rescheduled due to snow days. A date should be decided by the next board meeting. We will review the letter and final dates at that time. A draft of the letter to be sent to parents was reviewed. Governing Board names will be added to the bottom of the letter.Suggestion made to create a job description on the website including: our core values for the Linden STEAM Academy, job description, officers, committees, Robert’s Rules of Order, The Innovation Plan, and the By-laws.

1. **Subcommittee Reports** 
   1. **Curriculum & Instruction –** Plan to place a chart in the data room/teachers room that focuses on science and engineering. Ask that grade level teams write in their scope and sequence so that it may be compared with the new scope and sequence. Work can be done to develop topic mentors among the staff to aid grade levels that have changing curriculum topics.
   2. **Family & Community Engagement -** 50% of responses are from K-2 families, 50%+ feel welcome at the school, 50% + don’t know about the governing board. Suggestion made to create a Twitter account for the school for PR information purposes. Is there a need for an End of the Year Report? Discuss at next meeting
   3. **Meeting & Operations**

The committee, union representative, and staff met to discuss the issue of teacher work day.

Everyone agreed that having defined times was important. They also agreed that any decision should not shorten the length of the student’s day. The proposal is to have the teachers begin 5 minutes before the students arrive and stay 5 minutes after student dismissal. The five minutes is defined as being in the classroom and not in the parking lot. It was agreed that this may not be equitable across grades but it was also acknowledged that the job is not equitable across grades. Kindergarten teachers have very different issues than 8th grade teachers. Next steps: Union Representative will write up the proposal and meet with the staff to explain the proposal and how it differs from the current contract. It will then be brought up for a vote by the teachers.

1. **New Business** 
   1. **Continue Center-Based Learning in grades 6-8**This is more of a PD issue than a board decision. This change would help with SPED students and Students with IEPs, but requires a great deal of effort in the beginning.
   2. **Scheduling of PD days**A proposal was made to move two of the three PD days to the beginning of the school year. The third PD day would be after half the school year, probably in January to be used to reinforce the learning from the beginning of the school year. The number of school days would not change, they would just be rearranged. Students will be starting a day later. Teachers would be able to offer their input for their desired PD. Concerns were brought up about students who get bused and the afterschool program.  
      **Action Item**: Richard Bransfield will create a formal proposal that will be presented to the board for a vote at the next meeting.
   3. **Incorporation of STEAM and other academics in Afterschool program -** postponed
   4. **Accelerated and enhanced program** - postponed
2. **Principal's Report** postponed
3. **Scheduling of all SY15 GB meetings (10 min)**
   1. **Survey Monkey Results (5 min**)

**Motion**: Sonia Miller moved to change meeting dates to 4th Monday of month, with backup meeting date on the 3rd Monday in case of holiday.

**Seconded**: Alisha King

**Motion Carried**

**Action Item**: Rachana Gray will update the website with the new dates

1. **Adjourn**

**Motion**: Sonia Miller

**Seconded**: Judy Leisk

**Motion carried**