

Present: Dr. Christian Sawyer, Candace Lewis, Trista Fussner, Robyn DiFalco, Martha Gomez, Natasha Forrest, Heather Wilson

Absent: Carolyn Leahy (had her baby!)

1. Opening Rituals

- Gratitude cards
- Roles: Christian as facilitator, Robyn as secretary, Candace as timekeeper, Observer & Norms-checker by Natasha.
- Grounding ourselves in our norms - reviewed list
- Reviewed Mission Statement

2. Budget Collaborations

- Process tonight... Review our highest priorities from our last meeting. We heard comments like "What about math? And what are we doing in this area? What about ELD?"
- Then we'll look at spreadsheets, and review a report that outlines major components of the budget.
- Then we'll reflect on our process about CSC input into budget design
- Prior to today, Dr Sawyer has been meeting with lots of key partners. After tonight, he'll go back to DPS team with our recommendations. If necessary apply for assistance.
- **Reviewed spreadsheet** (handed out): figures were explained. Required funding for X, Y, Z from Mill Levies, etc. Numbers of projected enrollment compared to past. Some clarifying questions.
- **Reviewed Budget design factors & options:** outline by Dr Sawyer explaining specifics. Reviewed which areas to "Maintain", increase, re-allocate or re-assign elsewhere, without talking in terms of dollars.
 - i. Discussed Maintaining staffing/funding in areas of Whole Child / Community Supports, Math Improvements, AVID and IB/MYP for School Vision, ELD, SpEd Support, Grow Teacher Leadership with grants we got and invest in sending teacher leaders to coaching through DPS.
 - ii. Brief discussion about how critical teacher leadership is and how our current coaching model is working and is so much better than the old model
 - iii. It's time to honor the workload of our office team. Change in classification from Office Support 1 to 2 would mean change in pay scale which HR at DPS works out. Observing the workload, it should go from 6 hours to 8 hours/day. Overall, this is an increase to the office support team and is much needed.
 - iv. Continue to fund 2 Assistant Principal positions. For administrative efficiency and distribution of leadership and supervision needs.
 - v. Close out Positions due to Resignations. Based on people we already know are leaving, we can reduce staffing in this area (based on projected lower enrollment) and reduce RIBS.
 - vi. Absorb 110-day retiree contracts into staffing model. Two contracts will have to be built into current instruction and staffing model.

- vii. Decrease non-salary spending in targeted areas such as field trips, extra duty pay (beyond contract), overtime hours.
- **DISCUSSION:**
 - i. We were presented with some basic reductions that are proposed, plus Option A vs Option B, to reduce in this area or that.
 - ii. Questions about STEM, current staffing, current # of students per class, ISIR (In-School Intervention, in-lieu of suspension). Can Paras do lunch duty? Supports during lunch. Integrative supports with several staff in the same space to help together. Info shared that STEM supplies have largely been purchased through state funding, rather than through Hamilton budget. STEM includes career exploration for kids. Need to keep thinking about how Hamilton can fill the “pipeline” role feeding into TJ (STEM focus) or GW (IB).
 - iii. Question: what about Relay? Where does that come in? (What is Relay? A program used to coach teachers.) Both models involve moving away from the 110-day contracts and building in a reading intervention literacy teacher. And AVID has reading in it. Sawyer emphasized that we fully align with some elements of Relay in terms of coaching, data team, but not all the cultural practices that get taught such as student behavior norms.
 - iv. Question about schedule time change which ultimately impacts budget decisions [We jumped to the next topic then back to the budget decision -- see below]
- **BUDGET DECISIONS:** Group was in consensus that Option B is the preferred area for reduction.

3. Start Time proposals

- Teachers are majority in support of starting at 9:00 am; same sentiment from Student input.
- Parent input survey is going out and community forum is scheduled for Feb 5. Decision will need to be made very soon.

4. Observer Reflections & Next Steps

- Good questions and input shared. People spoke appropriately, especially considering sensitive topics.
- **Next Steps:** Dr Sawyer meets with DPS leadership team. Depending on the outcome of those conversations, he may need to call an emergency CSC meeting for this Friday afternoon (Feb 1), around 3:30pm. TBA.
- Otherwise our **next meeting** will be back to our regular schedule: **Tuesday, February 12** from 5 - 6:30 pm. (2nd Tuesday of the month)

Reviewed & Approved by over email