

## **BAC Meeting (virtual)**

### **1/21/2021**

#### **Welcome/Celebrations:**                    ***James***

- **In attendance:** Megan Oaster, Angela Martorella, Christina Wu, James O'Tremba, Julie DeSantis, Kandy Timiniski, Kevin Wood, Maribeth Natale, Maureen Bennett, Melisa Roth, Liddy Romero
  
- **Staff Appreciation Holiday Cheer Drive:** The PTO and our community raised \$4,000 to support teachers, and are giving breakfast and \$25 Amazon gift cards.

#### **DAC Update:**                                    ***Melisa (for Shawna)***

- Bond update: NMS is on schedule, Ford Elementary is due to be done on 6/15/2021.
  - Franklin Elementary is in the pre-construction phase, and all students will go to Highland from Franklin during construction.
  - 2023 is the anticipated due date for the CTE building.
- Mary Shay shared about how LPS has supported teachers during distance and hybrid learning. She also shared about the mandated literacy training for elementary teachers.
  - Haggarty phonemic awareness program has been purchased for literacy, and they are beginning to look into a new P-12 science and possibly an advanced curriculum (algebra/geometry) for middle school.
  - Student focus groups (about 150 students) were held to discuss preferred learning environments.
  - Equity: Work going on at Field, Virtual residency with Yemi Stembridge, district book study
  - Shared about the online news resource available to all LPS teachers to discuss current events with students at appropriate times and levels.
- Robert R. spoke as the board liaison
  - 130 quarantined at Franklin currently, but the board is still hoping to stay in hybrid through the end of March and to bring students back in April full time.
  - Free testing at Schomp for anyone in the community
  - TOPS will continue through May, but there is no plan to continue that in the fall.

- It cost \$5million dollars to do TOPS this year, so with budget cuts it doesn't make sense to do it again, even if there is some movement to other districts.
- Brian Ewert has recommended some school closures in order to have larger, more fiscally responsible schools. The current suggestions are: East will merge with Moody, Twain with Hopkins (Twain would be closed, new Hopkins built), and Peabody with Lenski (Peabody would move students to Lenski). The East/Moody merger is the only one currently expected.
- There is an open school board position that is being done via application. There will be another three positions available in the fall.
- There will likely be a “Reduction in Force” happening this spring due to budget cuts.

**Enrollment Projections and Budget for 2021:**      *James*

- 750 is the current NMS projection for the fall, and we currently are at 727 officially enrolled, so there is some room for open enrollment.
- LPS is for sure cutting 0.5 instructional coach positions for the 2021/2022 school year. Even with this, NMS is anticipating a gain of 4.5 teachers for the fall. We'll have the final cut sheet stand-up staff meeting in February.
- Electives and Social Studies/Science are the most likely areas to get more teachers. We'd also like to keep our instructional coach/coordinator, and James is advocating for a way to do so.
- Summer School? There is a potential for summer school this year that would be funded by COVID dollars. It's been suggested that it should be free, provide lunch, and provide transportation.

**New Building Update:**      *James*

- We are on track to have the new building done by the second week of June! We'll need to be out of the current building the week after students are done for the spring.
- Lists and equipment needs have been completed for most areas of the school. We are having the final music meeting next week, and the “final final” classroom meeting shortly.
- There are 4-5 types of furniture for each classroom, as well as furniture for pods - lots of variety and flexible seating! The grade-level pods have been created to be unique, too.

- James shared how cool the new library is going to be, and how excited he is about it! It also opens up to an outdoor amphitheater. The commons, cafeteria, and grade levels also have outside options.
- The commons/cafeteria are five times larger than what we have now, the gym is four times larger than the current one. There is also a much larger climbing wall and an above gym running track.

**Items from the Group:**                      ***Committee Members***

- Will there be math and LA assessments for incoming 6th grade students this spring?
  - It's most likely that students will take the assessments virtually after school, but there is a possibility that middle school will facilitate that at the elementary schools.
  - We'd like to do 6th grade registration earlier this year, including some virtual options. It would be great to have it happen before Spring Break.
- Who decides if a kid should go to summer school?
  - Usually teachers do, but this year it may be open to anyone.

**Adjourn the Meeting**

**Next meeting: 2/25/2021**