

LAKE FOREST SCHOOL DISTRICT 67

Education Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 20, 2011

8:15 a.m.

Lake Forest High School West Campus, Seminar A

Participants: Andy Henrikson, Julie Cooley, Harry Griffith, John Steinert, Bill Andersen, Amy Lazzaretto, Lesley Fisher

I. **Approval of Minutes** from June 27 meeting were first made by Dr. Griffith, and seconded by Mr. Andersen.

II. September Board Reports

-Social Emotional Learning – 2010/11 Report Preview- Julie Cooley shared that the 'goal by 2015 is that 100% of students surveyed will report positive perceptions of their school climate and demonstrate social-emotional competency.' Dr. Cooley shared the results of the School-Wide Behavior Survey Ratings, received by students at Cherokee, Sheridan, and DPM, students in grades 2-8. Dr. Cooley's report also showed a decline in both tardies and discipline actions at elementary schools as well as anonymous, online incident reports made at the middle school level. She will present these goals/findings in detail at our upcoming BOE meeting on Tuesday, September 27, alongside Rebecca Leafman and Joe Malin.

-Where Everyone Belongs (WEB) – Fall Update- John Steinert discussed the WEB program in detail. He discussed the importance of middle schoolers being connected to their school, not simply looking back on elementary school, or looking ahead to high school, but being connected to the present. He showed footage of the orientation where 8th grade WEB leaders spent a full morning in late summer with incoming 5th graders to reduce anxiety levels by playing games and answering questions. WEB comes from the Boomerang Project, recognizing that giving goes both ways (the Boomerang effect). LFHS instituted a similar program through Boomerang a year ahead of the middle school.

Several interesting facts re the WEB Program:

-Spirit grants paid for teachers/staff to be trained to implement the program.

-Nearly 100 incoming 8th graders (out of 280 total) went through a lengthy interview process (including offering important leader traits and ideas to improve the school) in order to apply for a WEB leader position. 52 were selected, as there are roughly 2 WEB leaders assigned per every ten 5th grade students. WEB leaders spent 2 full days training during the summer; all WEB leaders attended.

-WEB leaders have sacrificed-cannot head uptown right after school when duty calls, etc.

-WEB leaders assisted with: 5th grade student orientation prior to beginning of school year, bus location on first day of school, will continue to support throughout the year (locker organization, etc.).

-Staff members (administrators/faculty) who work alongside WEB leaders will attend a follow-up training in September in Chicago to reflect/share/problem-solve.

*Two WEB leaders are scheduled to speak at our BOE meeting on September 27.

-Summer 2011 Curriculum Work – A Written Report Preview given by Dr. Henrikson. Greater than 100 District 67 staff members, spending an estimated 680 hours, participated in approved

curriculum projects over this past summer. In the past, these projects used to be more teacher directed in that they decided what they wanted to work on and were typically allowed to do so, without alignment to district curricular improvement initiatives. Since the summer of 2009, Department Directors have initiated summer projects that are related to the goals established by the BOE. This year teachers could propose projects that would make their instruction more 21st Century oriented. Title 2 money, given to the local government by the federal government, and earmarked for schools, is used to support this program.

-Professional Development Report – 2010/11- My Learning Plan, our professional development management system, showed 58 professional development activities available for District 67 and/or District 115 faculty/staff. Writing, technology, World Language, 21st Century learning skills, crisis planning/intervention, and Mathematics were included in these activities. Some external consultants were used at our inservices, but our faculty/staff were empowered as many facilitated inservices using their own expertise. A written report will be available in the Board Packet.

III. October Board Reports

-World Language Report Preview 2010/11

Results of Gr. 3 Exploratory Program Survey - Dr. Henrikson reported that an estimated ¼ of our kindergarten students are enrolled in Mandarin this year. Dr. Henrikson will present the results from the Grade 3 World Language Exploratory Parent Survey (from May 2011) at our BOE meeting on October 25. Distribution of World Languages by grade level, grades K through 12, will also be presented in detail at the October meeting.

LFHS Freshmen Placements-Dr. Henrikson will use data to illustrate.

Mandarin Immersion Program Update – Fall 2011 -Asia Society Confucius Classrooms Network announcement to be made at either the September or October BOE meeting.

IV. NSED Update (Everett School students)- 5-6 students who were formerly placed at a school in Highland Park through NSED have been placed in their home District, at Everett School. Everett's space and strong administrative background in Special Education have helped to ease the transition for these students. Initial feedback from these students' parents has been positive.

VI. Other- The Education Committee has requested to know more about the specifics relating to placement in **Explore and QUEST Programs**. It was suggested that Colleen Bruegemann speak to the committee re numbers, selection process, etc. It was also suggested that this committee be privy to the information discussed at **Curriculum Coordinating Committee** meetings as this information will assist the Education Committee as they continue to make long term goals. Dr. Henrikson will provide Education Committee with a recap/share minutes from the CCC October 20 meeting at our next Education Committee meeting.

VII. Adjourn-The Education Committee will meet next on Tuesday, November 15 at 8:15am at West Campus. Prior to this meeting, committee members will study and reflect on the **District Dashboard**, found on the District website. We will offer suggestions re data we believe should be illustrated, etc.