



CITY OF MALDEN, MASSACHUSETTS

Mr. Richard Bransfield, Principal
Mr. Michael Drouin, Assistant Principal
Mr. David Hochheiser, Assistant Principal

LINDEN S.T.E.A.M. ACADEMY

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Linden STEAM Academy Governing Board Agenda June 13 2018 at 5:45pm Linden STEAM Academy Library

Call to order 5:50pm

1. Attendance – Kathleen Coye, Callie Walsh, Rachana Gray, Sarah Boswell, Deb Gesualdo, Justin Umlah, Johns Froio, John Oteri, Jessica Leggett, Christine Shuman-Caudill, Lenny Young. Newly elected reps: Cynara Cannatella, Vetsanet DePabachewk, Kenya Avant, Eden Garhart-Smith.
2. Approval of May Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve May minutes by Christine Shuman-Caudill, second by Justin Umlah.
 - i. Discussion: Only members of the SY 17-18 Governing Board may vote at this meeting
 - b. Motion carries.
3. Public Comment
 - a. Denise Keating
 - i. 8th grade student thought that no school walk-through would be occurring on June 19 for 8th grade students, but misunderstanding was clarified
 - ii. Would like to see more positive messaging to 8th graders and good, clear communication about why there have been changes to field trips, etc.
 - b. Cory Harding
 - i. Attending Governing Board meeting for the first time, asked for agenda
4. New Business
 - a. Welcome to new members

- b. Summer meeting date
 - i. Monday July 16th 5:45pm
- c. Governing Board meeting schedule for SY 18-19
 - i. 2nd Wednesday of each month will be continued for SY 18-19
 - ii. Will include snow date on winter meeting agendas (Wednesday following regularly scheduled meeting)
 - iii. Sarah Boswell motion to have a snow day policy for governing board meetings such that if the meeting is a snow day the meeting will occur on the following Wednesday. This is pending approval from the city clerk regarding if this is permitted by open meeting law. Scott Marino second. Motion carries.
- d. Grade 8 field trips and activities
 - i. Needed more clear communication about canceled field trip and rescheduled Moving On ceremony
 - ii. Field trip cancellation and change to Moving On ceremony was due to student safety concerns and not due to student behavior
 - 1. Need policies for safety district wide.
 - 2. Superintendent decided Crane's Beach field trip should be canceled due to safety concerns
 - iii. 8th grade did get a field trip form and money request that had requirements for behavior for going.
 - iv. Next year need plan for 8th grade and have clear criteria about end of year trips.
 - 1. There will be district wide update on field trip policy.
 - v. There was also change to 8th grade graduation celebration
 - 1. Had safety issues and some of this cannot be discussed due to student confidentiality
 - 2. Moved to a student breakfast.
 - vi. We need to get something out ASAP to explain reasoning and cancellations and full explanation.
 - 1. Susan and Deb will work to make sure a message gets out to parents/guardians
- e. Report from Student Council teacher representatives
 - i. Need to start recruiting students
 - 1. City events that student council can be present at be in their uniforms to be part of the Malden Community
 - a. Could have them go to school committee meetings
 - ii. Could recruit from 6-8th
- f. PD for beginning of school year
 - i. Overall response is excited for the opt in/out options
 - ii. Would like to see one on social emotional health and behavioral training
 - 1. Mass Teacher Association has some free PD in the summer on social emotional training & special education training
 - iii. Would like to have PD on the July agenda.

- g. Student school day (start/end times)
 - i. Beebe and Forestdale end at 2:20 and staff is there till 2:45. Scott wondering why our students stay till 2:30.
 - 1. This was voted on in our innovation plan.
 - 2. Student school day is controlled by school committee and when the innovation plan was voted on.
 - 3. Teachers also get more prep time than other teachers in the district.
- h. Middle school schedules
 - i. 75 min chunks of time for every subject – this is not working
 - 1. 2 x 75 and 2 x 45
 - 2. Long times seem to have more behavior issues.
 - ii. Less selection on explanatories
 - 1. Other schools have music or art whole year
 - iii. Team time is once every other day and prep every other day.
 - iv. Middle school teachers not happy with the 75 time blocks
 - 1. Comments that other schools do 60 min
 - 2. Teachers need to rotate students more in activities to keep engaged.
 - v. This is an issue that should be managed with the new administrator
 - 1. Teachers should propose solutions to scheduling issues to new principal
 - 2. What would these teachers want for a schedule?
 - a. Middle school should have a proposed schedule to send to Susan to present to new principal.
 - vi. Need to look at data re: whether or not 75 minute blocks are beneficial to students or not
 - vii. There will be impacted by PACE inclusion.
 - viii. High school are 55 min blocks
 - ix. We are at a standstill on schedule until the new principal begins to look at schedules
 - x. Grade school actually wants 1.5 hour Math block

5. Administrator's Report

- a. Announcement for new principal should come next week.
 - i. Brought back Nick Catoggio a few days a week over the past few months
- b. Exhibition night was great.
- c. AlphaBest is not being renewed
 - i. District will be providing afterschool programing - PCSM
 - 1. Linda Kelley will be running for the district.
 - ii. Will be partnering with Tufts such as robotics, film editing etc.

iii. Want to be sure that this new program will start with first day of school.

1. Will have on-line signup etc.

6. Personal Privilege

- a. This is time for information you'd like to give. This is not a time for discussion.
- b. Kenya: could use orientation for new Governing Board members.
- c. Lenny: remember that the Governing Board is the voice of the school representing the parents and the teachers and we need to do a better job of doing that and bringing what we do here and bringing it back to the school community. Also Innovation – it is the opportunity for Linden to go from a great school to an amazing school.
- d. Jess: says running club was going on all year and Boswell boys just hit 100 miles.
- e. Sarah: parents should be sure to ask questions and remember they are representing the whole school and just their students and their special interest.

7. Adjournment 7 pm

- a. Scott Marino motion to adjourn. Seconded by Christine Schuman-Caudill. Motion carries.