

Linden School School Site Council

Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022

Time: 6:00 PM

Meeting Location: In-person or [Zoom](#)

Requested By: Rafael A. Garcia, Linden School Principal

I. Roll Call

- Elaine Corpuz, Lisa Hanifan, Rachel Running, Kevin Graham, Elaine Elliott, Victoria Mulkern & Heather Provenzano

II. Approval of Minutes from April 13, 2022 meeting

- Approved

III. Communications of District and State Assessments

- Victoria Mulkern shared that she's grateful for the SSC bringing up transparency with data in the district. She noted we're the first school to bring this up.
 - District assessments currently include iReady for literacy and IXL for Math. Both platforms include caregiver letters. Victoria notes that MPS has been distributing these letters at back to school nights and/or parent/teacher conferences. She also provided Title I breakfasts to share information on the data.
 - Mrs. Provenzano will share data with families whenever asked. She has posted her contact info & calendly link on LSA Dojo this year and in previous years.
 - I sat with Mrs Provenzano, Mr. Garcia, and the district data manager to discuss how to share iReady moving forward. For this spring, we are going to pilot at Linden sharing the iReady family letter, which will include information on all 5 domains of literacy as well as information on areas of strength and need.
 - There will be training on Aspen this spring to support caregivers in how to use/navigate Aspen from the district.
 - Victoria would like parent input on how better to share data.
- Kevin noted that Linden is great about sending data home. However, he would like more support on what the reports mean. Could we provide more information on what the reports mean? Suggestion: a glossary of terms.
 - Victoria will look into creating a glossary of terms.
 - Heather will share Calendly link on Dojo in late May for parents to book virtual time to review & explain data, which will be completed on 5/27.
- Elaine C. asked if accessing this iReady information will be part of the Aspen Training.
 - Would it be possible to hold webinars this fall?
 - Could we hold multiple events where children have an activity and parents can remain with staff to learn more about topics such as data? Elaine shared that she was able to talk to Heather about the new curriculum during the Magic Show & would love more opportunities like this.
 - Consider a mini-series format to tackle one system/platform at a time?
- Kevin asked if the reports would support parents in working with students at home.
 - Victoria explained that the iReady report would provide information on how to support students at home.
- Elaine C. asked if there's a district calendar for assessment.
 - Victoria shared that the 22-23 district assessment calendar is in development.
 - Currently awaiting MCAS dates for Spring 2023 to finalize & share the assessment calendar.
- Elaine E. added that it's important to consider that the data does not show everything about a student's strengths and needs.

- Kevin asked in the assessment will work with the new literacy curriculum.
 - Victoria shared that we'll continue with current assessments next year, including iReady, IXL, DIBELS, and MCAS.
 - We're looking at adjusting our district wide writing prompt to match instruction with the new curriculum.
 - We're looking at sharing all data on Aspen next year.
 - Elaine thanked Victoria for putting this into action this spring.
- Ray added that prior to COVID Linden held coffee & conversation with the administration. These meetings will restart next year.

IV. Linden Physical Education classes

- Rachel noted that classes have resumed.
- Ray shared that coverage has been difficult and our PE teacher was out for a bit.
- Priority for substitutes has been in core classes.

V. Asian Pacific Islander Month

- Elaine noted that she meant to ask about Heritage month.
- Elaine also referred back to February conversation where Mr. Graham in which the team shared the district shift in focus to celebrating & recognizing diversity all year long, not just during a given month.
- Heather shared that Ray/MPS shared resources for Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage month with all staff. Also, Kim Gibbs, LSA math coach, has created slides with wonderful resources/links to notable contributions in the areas of STEAM from the AAPI community this month. There are also many great books available on www.getepic.com to learn more about Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage month in curated libraries.
- Lisa offered to share her personal book collection with all teachers.
 - Lisa did a read aloud *
 - Lisa uses storybooks all yearlong to celebrate diversity.
 - Mrs. Tully, our music teacher, is doing some work on the Pacific Islands.
- Elaine shared that after seeing the great diversity in our school during Multicultural night, it's exciting to know that our new curriculum will embrace & celebrate diversity all year long.
- Kevin is happy to hear that our students are learning about a variety Asian countries and cultures.

VI. Principal's Report

- Ray would like to congratulate & thank the Linden community for a wonderful multicultural night. Ray is looking forward continuing this celebration each year.
- Congratulations to students on MCAS! We're still working on Math & Science but we'll be done n next two weeks. Attendance has been pretty good. Thanks to students & families for their hard work!
- 5/18 District wide Aspen training at Salemwood from 4-6
- 5/26 Malden Family Carnival at Linden from 5-7
- 5/26 District wide basketball tournament from 5-7 for 7th & 8th graders for all students, being held at Linden
- 5/31-6/3 Linden will have spirit week
- 6/3 Linden Middle School Dance from 6-8 in the cafeteria
- 6/9 Student showcase is replacing Exhibition Night 5:30-7.
- 6/10 Linden Field Day will be held. Mr. Gillis is coordinating the field day along with PTO.
- 6/16 Gr 8 moving up day–rolling ceremony. Dance after ceremony in the cafeteria for Gr 8 5:30-7
- 6/21 Last day of school with 11:00 dismissal
- Rachel asked about a Pride Flag raising day.
 - Ray confirmed there will be a Pride Flag day and Juneteenth celebration. Dates and times are being coordinated with the district.
- Kevin shared kudos to Ray on his Linden report at School Committee meeting.

- Ray noted that all questions about AEAP will be directed to central office.

VII. New Items

- Kevin: Gardening/planting day? Ray shared that PTO is working on a date for that. Wally (PTO president) & Ray will share that date across platforms.
- Kevin: Is Aspen replacing Dojo? Ray shared that it is not. We will continue to use Dojo as one way to communicate with families
- Ray shared that the next LSA SSC meeting will be on 6/8 @ 6:00pm on Zoom.
- Wendy Lau asked in the chat: Will students get to “meet” the following grade teachers?
 - Ray shared that the administration is discussing if/when this could happen.
 - Elaine asked if there is a way to hold a transition meeting for rising Gr 5 students.
 - Ray shared possibly doing an info session at the beginning of next school year.
 - Kevin suggested sharing a recording of the new classrooms as if from the perspective of a new student.
 - Lisa shared that it’s helpful for current students to talk to the next grade level students to get more information from a student perspective.
 - She invites some former students in to chat with her class.
 - Elaine suggested recording to share with the grade level.
 - Lisa thought about sharing something with Gr. 1 students about Gr. 2 during the next student of the month assembly.

VIII. Adjournment