

DELTA/EAC Meeting Notes

September 17, 2018

Members Present (DELTA)

Co-Chairs: Cynthia Eubanks

Community Members: Rosina Aguirre, Leona Antoine, Kim Barbee, Cassie Eanes-Brown, M. Kay Emerson, Erica Hill, Anthony Lang, Adrineh Mehdikhani, Sookyung Shin, Njeri Shomari, Jose Trujillo

Guests: M. Sue Molloy and Nicole Negley (Alternative Coalition)

Members Present (EAC)

Co-Chairs: Annette Dabney, Lois Orth-Lopes

Community members: Maria Alonso Luaces, James Alan Hollinger, Peter Karman, John Rury, Gary Schmidt, Amy Wolf and Chris Tilden

School Board Member(s): Jessica Beeson

Administrative Staff: Kevin Harrell, Keith Jones, Mark Preut, Anna Stubblefield

District Staff: Danica Moore

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and Introductions: Anna Stubblefield opened the meeting.
2. Updates:
 - a. **District News:** Anna Stubblefield, Leah Wisdom, Danica Moore and Lois Orth-Lopes will be attending the Equity Leadership Institute in Indianapolis September 26 and 27.
The Midwest and Plains Equity Assistance Center (MAP Center) will have an onsite secondary school visit on October 31.
 - b. **Beyond Diversity Training:** There are openings during the next Diversity Training scheduled for October 3 and 4. DELTA and EAC members are invited to attend the two-day training.
3. Purpose/Goals for 2018-2019: The Board of Education would like input as they work on the goals. There is a January deadline for this. Also there are costs involved in each of the three areas listed below.
 - a. **Alternative Programming Options:** There is a community group (Alternative Education Coalition) promoting an alternative school. There had been an Alternative High School at Holcom Park in the past. Currently there are programs within our secondary buildings that provide alternatives for our students.
 - i. STAR at LFSHS has about 120 students who are assigned to one of the guidance counselors who offers specific services.
 - ii. SOAR at LFSHS has about 60 high risk students in a school within a school program. Half of their day is with core teachers and the other half is with other students in electives.
 - iii. Directed Studies at LHS has 40 high risk students who are assigned to specific teachers for the first and last periods of the day - check-in

and check-out periods. Another group focuses on student who are in group homes, foster homes, etc.

- iv. JAG - Jobs for America's Graduates is another program that focuses on students who are at risk for dropping out and not being able to get employment.
 - v. Billy Mills and Liberty Memorial Central Middle Schools are changing the approach for In-School-Suspension (ISS) to be more focused on restorative practices. At the end of the first semester there will be a report on the initial success of the approach.
 - b. **High School Start Time:** Both EAC and DELTA have a representative who has been serving on this committee. Peter Karman is representing EAC and Cynthia Eubanks is representing DELTA. At some point there will be focus groups involved in the process. DELTA and EAC will be two of the groups.
 - c. **Class Size:** There is interest in determining a threshold for class size. Over the years a large body of research has been conducted on the effects of class size on learning, teacher burn out, etc. It will be important to review this work in making the decision. Cost is definitely a factor in this issue.
4. Co-Chairs Follow-Up: The Co-Chairs of DELTA and EAC listed the concerns/projects that are still of interest to the committees and the communities they represent.
- a. There is interest in having input on the MOU between the Lawrence Public Schools and the Lawrence Police Department. The BOE Policy Committee (David Cunningham, Kelly Jones and Shannon Kimble) are interested/waiting for input from EAC and DELTA.
 - b. Lawrence history curriculum is still a priority for the DELTA and EAC. This past summer Annette Dabney sent the work done by our Academic Achievement Committee on Lawrence history to the district Curriculum Director Jennifer Bessolo.
The 2018-2019 district Curriculum Committee is currently working on the K-12 English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum. The DELTA and EAC representatives on this committee are Adrineh Mehdikhani and Kay Emerson.
 - c. There is still interest in seeing data about the effectiveness of the reinforcement systems used in each building as part of the CI3T program.
 - d. Recruitment and retention of teachers, administrators and staff of color is an ongoing concern.
 - e. Equity in fundraising is a concern. The PTA/PTO organizations in some attendance areas are able to raise considerably more money than others. This affects the special activities or projects these organizations can support for the students and staff.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 30, 2018, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, ESDC at 110 McDonald Dr.

Submitted by Lois Orth-Lopes