

## LMCMS Site Council Meeting Minutes 5/11/20 Meeting

**Attendees:** Kristi Kamm, Josh Spradlin, Dr. Anne Hawks, Roger Gibson, Jenny Skillman, Jackie Stafford, Erica Segraves, Naomi Danso, Kevin Green, Mr. Timothy Leffert, Zac Hamlin

### AGENDA

#### I. BLT Report/CiT3

**Dr. Anne Hawks Introduction:** Currently lives in Gardner, KS. She has a daughter in her sophomore year at KU and a son in his freshman high school year at Gardner. She has worked for school districts in Lawrence, Topeka, and Johnson County. Eight years ago she was the Assistant Principal at LMCMS and stayed in the position for 2 years. At that time there were discipline problems and she helped with the formation of Ci3T and STOMP, which had a positive impact on the school. She is happy the district has allowed her to transition to LMCMS a little earlier than planned. The last few weeks were spent working on PLCs and staff meetings. This semi-down time can be spent developing routine and normalcy - figuring out what the “new normal” looks like for everyone. Anne thanked Mr. Leffert for coming up with the social media interview idea.

#### II. Building Goals

1. **By the end of the 2019-2020 school year, 80% of students will identify an adult who they could ask for help or would consider a mentor.** : The likelihood of resurveying students now is very low. Attendance at online classes has been decreasing in the last two weeks. The initial survey was still missing 20% (around 100 students), but provides a snapshot of relevant data. Mr. Leffert said that in the future other data points such as extracurricular activities can be focused on to see if connections are forming.

2. **By the end of the 2019-2020 school year, suspension rates will decrease by 15 percent.:** The measurements in this goal make it challenging to understand as a real goal. Student accounts from KSDE are private and hard to read trends. We could interpret the reduction of days by 15%, but is it realistic to track this?

Dr. Hawks will share a report that was just given to the school board regarding in-school and out-of-school suspension. It lists raw numbers, not percentages. How it has changed based on COVID-19 could help interpret the number.

Mr. Leffert said that the report is counting time missed from class. The district will start reporting out the same information across the board in a consistent manner. In-school

suspension has gone down dramatically as all buildings try using student support instead of suspension.

Mr. Leffert addressed a community member's concern about the changes being made and how they are focusing on restorative practice by explaining that instead of suspensions, teachers can assign work for students that were skipping class. The students complete the work now in Saturday detention with guidance.

Dr. Hawks elaborated that there is a conglomeration of different school groups assessing needs to see what should change in the coming year including streamlining communication, consistency, and working as a mental health team to support students. CIT3 group maintains and reinvigorates STOMP. They are looking at expectations and getting back on the same page. They are discussing adjusting behaviors using reactive plans. The district approved a Student Support Specialist position. This person will implement restorative practices and lead circles to form reactive plans that are not punitive and that rebuild trust. Professional learning communities are meeting and focusing on data driven instruction to support student needs.

3. By the end of the 2019-2020 school year, 100% of the teachers will have demonstrated the use of WICOR/executive functioning strategies in their classrooms. : This is the goal with the clearest answer. Teachers are using it. We are wondering if students are using it, but that cannot be assessed at this point.

### **III. Fun Run**

There has been an on-going need for clearer accounting and reporting of account balances, transactions, and roll-overs for several years now as well as a transparent process for staff to request funds with a stated rationale for approval.

Dr. Hawks shared a document from the district's financial department that shed light on how things are recorded and reported. Mr. Leffert shared a document that separated out the "LMCMS Opportunity Central," which is the Fun Run/fundraising account in the district's system.

Ultimately, there was approximately \$20,000 in the account for this school year, which includes rollover plus what was raised in the fall. There is approximately \$14,000 left as of now. Confusion has been caused by several personal spreadsheets and it was agreed moving forward that the school would focus on the district's financial reports instead, with additional categories added and tracked within LMCMS Opportunity Central to better budget. It would also be helpful to see the revenue side (drilled down into the \$20,000 figure) to know how much was actually raised through the Fun Run and related activities.

Mr. Leffert explained that each year sub-categories can help earmark funds to be spent in the coming year. Earmarking money is what causes it to look like some funds were overspent this year because the sub-categories were never assigned money in a budgeting phase.

Dr. Hawks and Mr. Leffert agreed that the larger “general supplies and materials” account should be split into sub-categories each year, which would be helpful in tracking trends and needs. Since the pandemic is giving us a “buffer” year with far fewer expenses, the school can take the time to earmark funds and identify areas of need to direct these funds in the coming school year.

Administration has asked teachers to submit their budget needs on a form and Dr. Hawks and Mr. Leffert are reviewing them. It is most important that the general fund for the school be tapped first since those funds expire on June 1 and do not rollover. The LMCMS Opportunity Central/Fun Run money rolls over each year and we are not in danger of losing any of it.

#### **IV. Moving Forward**

The Site Council would like to be effective and supportive of the administration in the coming months. Attendance at the council meetings are high and community members, advocates, parents, and school staff are all excited to work together. Since the future is hard to predict due to the pandemic, there is not a call at this point to continue meeting over the summer months. However, if that changes after the state releases its recommendations for the 2020-2021 school year on June 1, the council could be called on to meet.

In the coming school year, it is most helpful if the BLT creates the building goals and then asks the Site Council to collaborate. We can either use the current goals or Dr. Hawks mentioned goals focusing on academic behavior, attendance, and other things teachers can easily measure. Mr. Leffert also mentioned bringing information to the Site Council about looking into the grant for security and revisiting the top priorities for safety identified after this year’s incident.