

## EAC Meeting Minutes 9/18/17

**Members Present:** Maria Alonso Luaces, Jessica Beeson, Lindsay Buck, Gina Byrd-Stadler, Beth Clark, Kel Catterton, Beth Clark, Craig Comstock, David Cunningham, Annette Dabney, Mary Ann Graham, Kevin Harrell, James Alan Hollinger, T. Eli Horn, Melissa Johnson, Keith Jones, Peter Karman, Tricia Masenthin, Randy Masten, Lois Orth-Lopes, Mark Preut, John Rury, Gary Schmidt, Sylvia Trevino-Maack, Amy Wolf

**Others in Attendance:** Graham Edmonds, Chisato Kimura, Rollin Love (student), Javonna Robinson (student), James Rossillon (student), Njeri Shomari (DELTA Rep)

### Meeting Summary

- Randy Masten called the meeting to order
- Randy asked everyone to review minutes from last meeting
  - The minutes need to be shared with all representatives - Dawn Downing posts the minutes on the website under Equity.
  - With no dissent to minutes, it is assumed they are approved and we will move on. No dissent was voiced.
- EAC Procedures (Randy) - went over the procedures with the group. Share the agenda items with the co-chairs so they can get it out to the group ahead of the meeting. Committee members should be specific when submitting articles or information that is being proposed for discussion at EAC meeting.
  - There will be three committee groups (Academic Achievement, Discipline, and Policy), each headed by one of the co-chairs, with the understanding that they are interwoven.
  - A new item was added to the procedures: "Members of the DELTA (District Equity Leadership Team Advisory) will participate in the EAC meetings and subcommittees." This will be added as new item #11 on the Procedures sheet.
  - It was brought up that last meeting when discussing the changes to South Middle School there was probably less than a quorum to make that decision. Group decided that a quorum is 50% of the EAC committee plus one. This will be added as new item #7 on the Procedures sheet.
  - Annette Dabney suggested that if we finish the agenda, time could be used for subcommittee work.
- Brochure: wording under "monitor the academic achievement" was changed. The word "parents" was added. In policies area, changed LGBTQ to Equity in general, because there are other issues besides just LGBTQ policy that will need to be addressed.
  - 3rd Grade Lawrence, KS history curriculum - needs to be updated to reflect cultural history. Is there a way to clarify this, so people understand why 3rd grade, specifically? It might be confusing to people who don't understand that 3rd grade is the grade assigned to the history of the city of Lawrence, specifically. It was brought up that 7th grade also covers the history of Kansas, with some of it highlighting the history of Lawrence. "Review curriculum regarding the history specific to the city of Lawrence" might be better wording. Perhaps make the third bullet "point of interest is reviewing curriculum regarding..."
  - Attendees should review materials and respond right away, rather than waiting until the next meeting. This will make meeting time more efficient.
  - Keeping first and second bullet point, third bullet point will read: "Point of emphasis for academic year 2017-2018 will be to review the curriculum regarding the city of Lawrence"
- Lois and Annette attended site council meeting at SMS. Keith Jones is here to report:
  - Meeting was productive - 13-15 attendees. They are about to have a follow-up meeting, looking at pros cons, talked about how it is the site council job to make a recommendation to the Board. The date of the next site council is next Wednesday. They want more stakeholders involved, so considering creating a survey so they can hear from more voices. Also want to educate people on why they are proposing this change.
  - Clarification was asked for who is considered "stakeholders" - will Haskell's voice be considered. Survey will be available online to anyone. Student's voices will be considered. When site council at South meets again should be Haskell should be invited to attend. South does have the letter from the Carole

Cadue-Blackwood and the petition with all the signatures from tribes submitted by Haskell. Carole Cadue-Blackwood and Steve Cadue did present at the last EAC meeting. There are other names being considered in addition to Billy Mills. Procedures were created because last meeting we realized why they are needed.

- After the article came out, it was brought up to Board members that there were no women being considered as options for renaming the school.
- Next year is South Middle School's 50th anniversary of the school, so this might coincide with this change.
- Getting historical facts of the land that was given to South: Haskell Multicultural Center person and Librarian at Haskell - recommended reaching out to them. Jancita Warrington was mentioned and Kel Catterton has contacts for this.
- Student committee member asked: There are some parents who disagree with the name changing - is there another way we can honor and appreciate the culture? Anna Stubblefield said they will follow the process and take into consideration - gave example of changing Central MS to Liberty Memorial Central MS. All sides will be taken into consideration. Board will ultimately make the determination once all the input has been gathered. Site Council meetings are open meetings, so all are welcome to attend and give their perspective.
- Board Member Jessica Beeson asked the cost to change name - Board approved LMCMS - uniforms were not replaced right away, it was as the cycle came up. It was a slow process. There was some cost with signage (that was the biggest cost) most everything else was replaced on the cycle that it would naturally be replaced.
- Subcommittees were discussed:
  - Academic Achievement - Annette Dabney, Chair
    - Analysis of academic achievement data
    - Resources for multiple perspectives
    - Lawrence history curriculum (Edited 9-18-2017)
    - Disparity in AP and SPED classes
    - Other
  - Socio-Emotional and Behavioral Support Systems, Lois Orth-Lopes, Chair
    - Analysis of discipline data
    - Disparity in In-School and Out-of-School suspensions
    - Disparity in placement of students with Behavioral Disorders
    - Memorandum of Understanding between USD 497 and the Lawrence Police Department
    - Other
  - Policy - Randy Masten, Chair
    - Acceptable Use Policy for computers
    - Policies and guidelines that relate to the work of the Academic Achievement and Discipline Subcommittees
    - Other
  - The co-chairs realize there is overlap among these groups.
  - Anna - Board goals might also be tied in with our sub-committee work. Board might reach out to EAC for input and perspectives.
- LHS Sit-In
  - Student representatives present Rollin Love, Chisato Kimura, James Rossilion, Caitlyn Trevino, Javonna Robinson were recognized to speak about the LHS sit-in.
  - Senior group chat was created. About half seniors added. Gender inclusive homecoming - there was some dissent on the group chat. This past Thursday, some transgender students who were added to the chat, and the group chat became more and more bullied and harassment. People started being bullied and targeted in school. Students wanted to do something to fix transphobia. Rollin and some other students met with Equity reps at the district. Students gave input. Safe space for LGBTQ students. More transparency with students. Students need to know that administrators are going to follow through.

- Original group chat was deleted. They created a new one and those who were pointing out transphobia were deemed “problematic” and a new group chat was created to exclude those people, so was just as problematic as the first group chat.
- Kel Catterton - if cyber bullying happens outside of school but bleeds into school hours, it should be addressed
  - LHS Assistant Principal Mark Preut: he was made aware last Friday that students talked with admin about group chat - at that time was not about transphobia. Mark came to TEA (Total Equality Alliance) after school on Friday - a lot of discussion around the comments that had been made. Students had identified a couple people who were very problematic, dead names, mis-gendering. Mark left the meeting before it was done. They were identified as football players later. There was a lot of anger about “fake allies” - TEA kids felt betrayed by their own. Dirk said he addressed a couple players before the game, and said he would talk to the whole team after the game. Screenshots came in Sunday afternoon. Mark found out there would be a sit-in.
  - Anna - went over there at 1:30 to meet with students. By 3:00 last Friday, they didn’t have any screenshots. Some admin didn’t get those until Monday morning.
  - Question: would school have taken action if they received the information prior to the end of the day on Friday, would they have taken action (prevented football player from playing in game)
  - Other administrators did see screenshots on Friday. Several students brought screenshots to admin. Frustration was that it felt like nothing was going to be done about it.
  - There needs to be district wide initiative to spread education about gender identity - would help students band together more.
  - Policy - pronouns and dead naming.
  - Mark - what came from some of the meetings with admin today is that it was recognized that students need the same equity work educational opportunities as teachers have been getting.
  - There are guidelines coming out to staff yet this year
  - ID badges - can they be changed.
  - Kel - concern about teachers using incorrect pronouns - is there policy?
  - Students were thanked for willingness to come speak to the EAC.
  - LGBTQ+ issues - include race issues as well, in what we are teaching students.
  - KU - a good resource for training on LGBTQ+ to consider. Worth looking into finding somewhere
- Beth Clark - sending an “Influence the Lawrence Kansas Police Department” survey - commissioned through the city. There is an online survey, they are asking for input and handed out QR codes and websites to give input. Validity - even though it is her company/organization, IP addresses cannot be traced and will not involve police and will not involve the city. They have teams to go through the data prior.
- Hispanic Heritage Month is coming up - Sylvia Trevino-Maack is asking for help spreading this information.

EAC members signed up for Sub-committees as follows:

**Academic Achievement:**

T. Eli Horn, Amy Wolf, Maria Alonso Luaces, Tricia Masenthin, John Rury, Jessica Beeson, Peter Karman, Keith Jones

**Socio-Emotional and Behavioral Support Systems:**

Craig Comstock, Gary Schmidt, Melissa Johnson, Mary Ann Graham, Beth Clark, Alan Hollinger

**Policy:**

Sylvia Trevino-Maack, Kel Catterton, David Cunningham