

BOARD ACADEMIC COMMITTEE MEETING
Merit School of Music
38 S. Peoria, Chicago, IL 60607

MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016

MINUTES

OPEN SESSION 6:08 P.M.

Call to Order:

Time: 6:08 P.M.

1. ROLL CALL **LA SHONE KELLY** **ABSENT/PRESENT**

Board Members:

Seth Harkins, Chair	Present
Renee Nash, Co-Chair	Present
Angela W. Richardson-Bryant, President	Present
LaShonda Milton, Treasurer	Absent
La Shone Kelly, Vice President	Present
Austin Berg	Absent

Staff:

Dr. Richard Lebron Head of School	Present
Farland Jenkins Board Administrator	Present

1. ROLL CALL

2. Introduce Guests: Allen Wall, Board Attorney

Discussion **3. Public Comments on Agenda Items**

- None.

**Discussion
& Action**

4. Accept Agenda

Motion: Seth Harkins – **Accept the agenda.**

2nd: Angela W. Richardson-Bryant

Vote: Voice Vote, Unanimous Aye.

Discussion:

- None.

**Discussion
& Action**

5. CVCS Data Analysis

Motion: Angela W. Richardson-Bryant – **Request management provide a data analysis of the beginning of the year NWEA scores and end of the year NWEA scores of students that were in the school from the beginning of the school year taking that test and the end of the school year taking the NWEA to be presented at the next Academic Committee meeting.**

2nd: La Shone Kelly

Vote: Voice Vote, Unanimous Aye.

Discussion:

- NWEA Growth Rates for all grades
 - There may have been testing fatigue that affected the scores
 - Certain students took mid-year tests
 - There should be data tracking of students with mobility to compare students entering later
 - An appreciative inquiry approach should be applied to the data
 - The Committee would like to see analysis of the data including determining how the significant sub-groups have patterns that may be found and then propose an action plan for movement.
 - There should be a comparison from fall to spring results.
 - There could be an overall paradigm for curriculum assessment to determine how we may triangulate the data.
 - There may be external influences on the subgroups that affect the scores.
 - Distinguish between common cause variations and special cause.
 - There should be Board action for an analysis of the beginning of the year with the end of year data for students who were here at the beginning of the year and what they did at the end of the year.
- Student progress rates on K12 curriculum should be carried over for discussion at the next meeting.
- Differences in learning coaches can be seen at attainment levels.
- It is not clear if there are portfolio assessments of student progress.
- Progress is charted in the gradebook system.
- There is not a standing assessment committee. The principals use K12 assessment tracker tools.
- There is an external comprehensive assessment team.

- Moving forward, the Committee would like an analysis.
- A data analysis of the beginning of the year NWEA scores and end of the year NWEA scores of students that were in the school from the beginning of the school year taking that test and the end of the school year taking the NWEA can be presented at the next Committee meeting.
- There are 3 different ACT reports.
- The Head of School has presented what is referred to as ACT data. That ACT report does not take into account when the test was taken and uses all students who have taken the test.
- The school level ACT test results computed by CPS limits to students who took the ACT in the 11th grade only.
- Another ACT test uses the EXPLORE PLAN ACT and counts the ACT scores based on whenever the test is taken.
- The scores presented by K12 were from the CPS average ACT from a year ago.
- The Committee is concerned that we need to use what CPS uses for our charter agreement measurements.
- Management recommends using the ACT average which excludes 10th and 12th grades.
- To be clear, management will report on the ACT average, which is what is what CPS reports to the state.

Discussion

6. SPED and English Learner Compliance – Social Worker Minutes

- The Related services provider report includes social worker minutes.
- The social has direct and indirect minutes.
- There are currently 2 different FTE positions: 1 counselor and from CPS, a 0.3 social work and counselor position.
- This is not enough to comply with the required minutes.
- In the past, a social worker was hired at 0.3 and offered a 0.7 for counseling.
- Some of the 0.7 counselor is used to supplement the 0.3 social worker to comply with the required minutes.
- We do not get reimbursed for the 0.7.
- The person in the position has a type 73 certification.
- Management will appeal to CPS to get more social worker funding.
- The new request is an SSRR procedure.
- The Committee recommends that the request be made in writing with a formal letter.
- The overall IEP compliance decreased because new students enrolled that have IEP's that were not in compliance.
- The Committee would like a monthly report on the status.
- There are 10 days to get new students in compliance.
- An emergency plan could be created.
- An interim IEP should be made for new students to stay safe with compliance.

Discussion**7. F.A.S.T. report and retention information**

- Management provided the total number of student referrals and how they were supported.
- The F.A.S.T. team could have released the supported students earlier.
- Middle school and high school families tended to need the most support.
- Many of the struggling students have truancy concerns.
- Referral data has been compiled.
- Management has more support this year from K12.
- The Committee would like to see a benchmark of families that have hole, keep and pass status.
- Management can create a benchmark for the coming year.
- There has not yet been a situation of a student enrolling without a learning coach.
- In such a case a learning coach would have to be assigned.
- The learning coach handbook has language that would make it difficult for such a student.
- There should be a future conversation about what is a parent's responsibility.

Discussion**8. Professional Development – teacher remediation plan**

- Management has prepared a plan for remediation for teachers who are performing at a needs improvement level.
- Various deficiencies must be addressed in the plans.
- The remedial activities must be specific.
- The plan includes a consulting teacher component.
- Mentors will not communicate with administrators.
- There is concern about having another teacher serving in that role.
- This should be discussed with the Board attorney.
- In other districts, unions ask for the consultation, often from other schools.
- We may need to take action in the full Board meeting to amend our policy to make it a part of the evaluation.

Discussion**9. Foreign Language Program Progress**

- Management will compare one year to the other.
- K12 will send data from the last year.
- The goal was for every 1st and 2nd grade student is enrolled in a foreign language program.
- This will be the 3rd year of this initiative.
- The Committee would like to see the level of participation.
- There is no grading for this program.
- The cohort students should be identified.
- Management will bring data from the last year to the next meeting.
- Parent feedback should also be provided. This information may not have been gathered.
- The Committee would like a copy of the initiative.

Discussion	<p>10. Data Tracking and Differentiated Instruction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This information was presented to the full Board. • The report document was not provided.
Discussion	<p>11. SQRP Scores</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The scores decreased in some areas and improved in others. • The school will remain at a level 2+ for the year. • There is great participation in the My Voice, My School surveys. • K12 also administers surveys. • The full 5 Essentials survey can be presented at the next meeting. • Climate and culture may need to be addressed in Strategic Planning. • The curriculum audit may provide additional information.
Discussion	<p>12. Students in Temporary Living Situations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management has developed an approach to identify students who are in this situation. • The school has an STLS coordinator. • Each plan will be for specific situations. • The coordinator will also work with the social worker. • The Illinois liaison for homeless did not provide input. • The Board attorney should review the plan. • This was an issue during the charter renewal. • It is not clear if there was a complaint. • We want to know the specifics of the complaint. • A recommendation should be made to the full Board to have the Board Attorney review the document.
Discussion	<p>13. Public Comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will be transitioning to a new meeting system. • CPS does provide consulting teachers. •
Discussion & Action:	<p>14. Adjournment</p> <p>Motion: LaShonda Milton – Adjourn the meeting.</p> <p>2nd: Angela W. Richardson-Bryant</p> <p>Vote: Voice Vote, Unanimous Aye.</p> <p>Time: 8:12 P.M.</p>

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a stylized 'S' or similar character.

Board Secretary