

DHS School Council Meeting
August 22, 2017

Attendance:

Council: Ebony Washington, Kevin Dankosky, Kim Weatherly, Tom McFerrin, Mary K Morris, Randi Siegel, Bruce Kaminsky, Dave Levy

Guests: None

Bruce opens meeting at 4:04pm.

Welcome new members and introductions.

Selection of officers:

- Co-Chair: Dave Levy
- Secretary: Randi Siegel

Discussion of principal selection process:

- Bruce shared conversation of phone call with Sherry Johnson and Kina Champion from DCSD. They called to explain the principal selection process. The County engaged a consultant because someone in the audience suggested the idea when Ms. Johnson visited DHS to explain the process earlier this summer.
- Mr. McFerrin shared his knowledge of the process and discussed the impact of having a national consultant engaged by the county to extend the candidate search on a national level.
- The consultants (believe they are from Chicago) actually visited Atlanta today, but did not come to DHS. They plan on returning in early September to interview the community. Will make another visit to Atlanta later in the month.
- The consultants will not be able to begin their process until September 25th because of their scheduling constraints. On the 25th they will meet with Assistant Principals and then return a month later to meet with the community.
- Search likely will not start until November. There is a risk that candidates will not want to begin a job as principal that late in the school year, thus we may lose some quality candidates.
- Not aware of specific costs, but suspect that engaging a search consultant is going to be very expensive. We want to be certain that DHS is not being charged any of the expenses now or in the future.
- Council discussed pros/cons of engaging a consultant and determined that it was not in DHS's or DCSD's best interest to engage.
- Council voted unanimously against having a consultant involved. Bruce will call Ms. Johnson to discuss and the council is prepared to write or meet with Dr. Green if necessary.

Selection of principal selection panels:

- The process will involve three panels and the following council members volunteered to participate:
 - Resume review: Kim and Randi
 - Professional interview: Kevin and Bruce
 - Focus group: 7-10 individuals from the community will participate. Council participants will be Dave and Mary K.

As per the process, the Council is tasked with coming up with five questions that the Focus Group will ask the candidates.

Council reviewed some sample questions and decided it best to determine themes for the questions:

- Culture
- Communication
- Life question – who are you?
- Vision
- Leadership

Bruce will do a first draft and circulate to the group for edits.

New Business:

- The Council agreed earlier this summer that we will address the issue of too many students are not eating lunch. The lines are too long and the food quality is less than desirable. Approximately one third of DHS student population is on free or reduced lunch. It is imperative that our students are able to eat a balanced meal at school.
- Council sent a letter to DSCD requesting this be addressed. Representatives toured the cafeteria with Mr. McFerrin during the first week of school to formulate ideas on how to address the issue.

Adjournment at 6:03pm