

## **SLT Meeting, Waddell Language Academy May 8, 2017**

Erika Strubbe calls the meeting to order  
Dr Eybl will share last meeting's notes.

### **Membership review**

All SLT members can only be on for 3 years (members have voting rights though anyone can attend). To confirm next year's group, Erika confirmed that all current members haven't been on the SLT for 3 consecutive years except Furuya Sensei , Erika and Tamika (Hamrick Sensei, Abe, Green White, Miao, Land, Kido, Wright, Li, Booker, Lynch, Huber?, Mike Wilson, Adrienne Johnson, Yvette, Sucharita, Dawn, Judy, Susan all have been with the SLT for fewer than 3 years)

Election needs to happen before the end of the year for next year's leadership. Dawn is considering being chair next year, and we need someone with at least 1 year experience as co-chair. No volunteers for co-chair role yet.

Erika and Dr Eybl talk about roles that can be perennially on the SLT (vs the 3 year term)

### **Review of last SLT meeting**

Sheet from Nancy Brightwell from last SLT meeting passed out. No additional updates.

District is talking about school choice, not the bond now.

Erika asks about next steps if questions can't be answers. There were several questions. What is the game plan to get answers?  
Why 1216 students for the new school? Visas? Staffing? Timeline? (Dr Eybl said there is no timeline until the bond passes)  
Breakdown for 1216 number? Answers haven't yet been provided. Many people have said that the questions are important in order to support the bond.  
Dr Eybl said that it is everyone's choice but the bond is much bigger. We don't know if Waddell will stay the same even if the bond doesn't pass. There is a bigger picture.

Another parent raises a question about the distrust with the board and feeling like our questions aren't being answered. Another parent talked about the success of the Waddell program and the importance of preserving the good elements of it.

Another question is whether Waddell would get the Smith site and Collinswood would get the Nation's Ford site.

These questions will be passed to Nancy. We haven't received any responses to date. There was a meeting in April and nothing new provided.

“Replacement facility” is the wrong word. It is more “franchising”—increase the numbers and increase the number of students.

Has anyone asked about current 6<sup>th</sup> grader plans? Some parents may not want to gamble on the uncertainty especially if they have younger siblings.

Reduction in enrollment seems to assume that middle school may decline. They have said that they won’t reduce number of sections in elementary but if the decline is coming from middle school, what does that mean for middle school programs. Current enrollment at Waddell is 1378.

Other Learning Community superintendents don’t have information.

Erika Strubbe said we’ve been told not to contact BOE members. Ann Clark wants us to go through Nancy or Dr Eybl.

A parent expressed disapproval that the direction was given to not address the BOE. Directly (“these are elected officials by us”). It is a right as an individual to go to BOE but the SLT is discouraged from doing so.

### **Staffing updates**

Changes in faculty status: Mme Diallo (4<sup>th</sup> grade French( returned from leave, .5 Chinese middle school vacancy, Frau Yigit leaving, Ms Valuseck with Oaklawn share, Nurse’s last day is Friday (she’s received a promotion). We will be getting nurses from Quail Hollow and another school.

Frau Yigit’s visa expired after 5 years.

Nurse will only be 2-3 days a week. Front office staff can administer daily meds.

Parent asks about Frau Yigit’s search. Position has been posted, and a request to post on CMS job postings. Applicants appear to be coming in. If someone is fluent, they can apply for the job. Interviews start next week.

Yigit would have to return and then reapply. She could come back for 5 years on another J visa but you can only get 1 renewal. For the Chinese, it is a 2 year renewal.

Parent expressed concern with new teachers for the 3rd grade German students for several years. With 2 schools, this is an even bigger problem.

### **Testing Updates**

STAMP assessment in English and target language in 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. 5<sup>th</sup> grade hasn’t happened yet.

EOGs, May 24-June 9. Need for proctors still. Testing across the school. Each classroom teacher needs a proctor. Sign up genius has the list—better to have too many proctors. It is boring but it is important. Supporting teachers for secure testing environment. Anyone over 18 can proctor the EOGs. 24 for the first day isn’t enough.

HSK for grade 8 (Chinese test), May 10. Assessments from Confucius Institute

YCT, May 12. UNCC has a CI now, and we will be partnering with them.

Questions on trends in testing and how the students perform on the language tests. Herr Nuss does look at the testing every year. You can request your own student's scores but there isn't benchmarking for STAMP.

Adrianne asked now that with 3 years of history, if there's a way for testing. Herr Nuss said that the tests have changed from AAPL to Stamp. Then the Stamp test has changed again which makes the comparisons difficult.

### **School Improvement Plan**

Teachers are using the strategies and preparing students for EOG assessments. SIP for next year is due in October. Self evaluations are the first step, Sept is the beginning of the process.

Global Ready Certification, Waddell's application was accepted. There were several team members who worked on it (Herr Nuss, Herr Land, Ms Lentz, Madame Shembo, Madame Melendez, Ms. Lynch, Lee Lao shi, Hamrick sensei). DPI team will visit at a later date to validate what we wrote. When that is finalized, 11/2 state board meeting to receive banner. That lasts for 3 years.

9 Magnet Schools of Excellence in CMS (including Idlewild). 8 are Magnet Schools of Distinction. Waddell was in good company at the LA ceremony last week.

For the SIP, It's about improving and academic excellence. Goals are built for the following year in September. Assessment results can help to determine if there's improvement.

Student progress tracked through MAP scores, teacher assessments and reading 3D. Erika suggested adding those items for review for SLT.

### **Title IX**

Lessons have been developed that teachers must present about gender identity (LGBTQ). They've revised the lessons and teachers need to present them toward the end of the school year, after EOGs. Parents will receive a letter to opt out. Principals will get letters on May 10. These are k-12. We don't know if teachers can opt out. Dr Eybl will get information on these lessons and then she will send it out. We can decide if we want our child to participate.

Parent asks about training for the teachers but Dr Eybl said they haven't received the lessons yet. There will be new lessons on the 10<sup>th</sup> and then training. Parents won't be able to review the lesson before they opt out. This is similar to RHASE (reproductive health) education for 5<sup>th</sup> graders.

Herr Land expressed concern around the timing. Dr Eybl said in the Feb/March principal's meeting, there was an uproar. Issue probably raised through a Title IX complaint. There was pushback from principals on doing this at the end of the school year but it has to be done before the end of the year.

Herr Land mentioned that STAMP and English tests continue...it's difficult to add yet another requirement and expect it to be executed well.

Questions around how the lessons have been prepared. Significant differences in the ages of the students and there is likely to be a scripted lesson. This likely won't be ongoing but rather it's a "one and done" effort. Dept. of Ed (OCR) has given the district a certain timeline to complete this.

#### ScreenAgers Reminder

Monday, 1:15pm for 6-8<sup>th</sup> graders and 6:30pm screening for parents. Social media and mobile phones. Counselors will do Q&A.

A question to invite Nation's Ford parents to the screening as well.

#### Open comments

Would it be possible to have a meeting in our auditorium about the rezoning with Nancy Brightwell, et al. This may be a way to get answers. Even it may sense to combine it with one of the upcoming coffees. Dr Eybl asked if Ann Clark was available and she said she wasn't.

2<sup>nd</sup> lottery has closed. Questions around how our SES will change. Dr Eybl hasn't seen how SES has changed. Adrienne asked to know how it has changed. PTSO has asked about changes because it could affect fundraising plans. Goal is 30/30/30. Erika said Waddell's SES is 21%. We also don't know what middle represents.

Summer enrichment, 5 rising 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and 5 rising 3<sup>rd</sup> graders who don't have an exemption or don't pass EOGs. Any rising 4<sup>th</sup> grader who meets the criteria can get it. Parents opt into waiting list. Tiers of intervention happened throughout the year. This is based on how well the children respond. Those limits are the same for other CMS schools too.

Teachers will be contacted so parents write letters of support for the kids for EOGs. "I'll know you'll do well" type of encouragement. The letters will be delivered to the students. Can individual kids be addressed? Yes, you can address to a specific child.

Does this info go to parents who don't speak English? Translation is a challenge. Perhaps there can be an SLT translator next year.

Meeting adjourned.