

## Kennedy School Improvement Council Meeting

October 18, 2022

3 pm

Introductions – Steve Marshall

Steve's vision with regard to last year

Bringing back the Joy and passion for the work that they are doing

Getting staff back

Ability to try things out, experiment

Collegiality, collaborative nature of the bldg.

Updates

He'll share the district template for SIC

We write the plan in Feb and present it (some don't present)

End of the year – examine the budget, in the past we talked about playgrounds, grant was given to us, but then COVID hit, \$75,000 to design it

*Ideas – Wilson/Eden Martin's group?*

*Somerville Preservation Group gave the \$\$\$ -- ask Rose White if she knows about this*

Jenny – do the PPP (COVID funds) need to ???

ESSER funds – some went into hiring, Steve asked for another adjustment counselor (and received one) and a social worker who's shared with the Brown School

Still working out the details of the social worker's role; also hired social worker lead across schools (?)

Steve wants to keep the staff that he's hired

Steve sits with the cabinet to discuss his budget

A lot riding on the new superintendent who's hired and their priorities/agenda

Jenny question – are there any dictates regarding what you're supposed to include on the SIC Plan?

3 focus areas -- equity, academics, social/emotional learning

There are 7 steps of continuous improvement – Steve wants to apply this framework to how we approach the SIC and SI plan

And there's a table to fill out as part of the plan

There was a 2018-2021 3-year plan but then COVID hit, need to re-start

1999-2022 on the website -- ???

We're likely starting a new plan

Likely some things will roll over from the previous plan

Membership – no definition as to how long someone is on the SIC

There are no returning voting members, except maybe a couple of staff members (and Francesca)

Have to vote on who the members are, but anyone can participate

Rarely take things to a vote with the committee – Steve

Barbara O'Brien – admin support, helped Steve develop surveys – student, family, staff – can be revised, if needed

Staff survey will likely be done next week b/c have PD (professional development)

KES is quite different from all the other schools

Our needs are different, procedurally we do things the same

Tried to have Q's on equity

When I don't understand something, my teacher explains it to me in multiple ways

My culture is represented in the curriculum, presented positively, and ppl respect it

Working on multi pronged support (?) MTTS (multi tiered student support)

Talked about going thru our book room from an equity lens (already being talked about) – just need to estab plan for it and rationale behind it – *ask Betsy about this*

(end of Steve's presentation)

Fran – student & family survey? Timing of data collection?

Do we have access to ???

Demographics missing from survey (Jenny's point) – she's working on something similar to this for the State of Ohio

Steve to share surveys electronically with everyone at the meeting

Jenny will share surveys she's developing (from Fed Gov't)

Steve wants to take the pulse & use data to show progress

Jenny – do you, Steve, have any pet projects?

Steve – getting PPL back into what they are passionate about

All truth it was dampened (in the last couple of years)

Steve – he's teaching the PD with the principal of SHS

What brings a positive

Passionate about keeping staff including himself energized

Keeps students motivated and happy,

We're starting to do more that we did b/f COVID – assemblies, brining ppl in

Staff are doing a chili cookoff – Steve never wins, but has to judge

Getting kids to showcase their work, showcase the school

Student aspiration group (not gov't) take some kids that wouldn't be on student council/gov't, when they did the asst principal search he included non-conform kids on the committee for interviews, their opinions really helped him

Steve created the cell phone policy, kids input solicited for it

Kids' plans that were for the playground

Idea – have kids do a design competition for the playground

*KEB – check in with Rose about \$\$\$ that was granted provisionally for the playground re-design*

Sean Callahan – playground, Mark Campbell – bldg. supervisor (new position) – puts fire under DPW, we can connect – ppl employed by the city

Sean going to work with Mr. Sharp to bring Makerspace up to code, e.g., saw dust, eye wash stations

Kaylee Gallatano now cabinet position at City Hall in central government of Somerville – equity & racial person – was here at KES

Idea -- Loop in Sarah Bruhn & Betsy

Kelly Watson Holley

Jenny – add'l equity issues

Numerical based grading in middle school – don't understand why that happens esp given the research

Discipline not on the survey

Don't believe in detentions, suspensions, they don't work (Steve)

All the SEL (social-emotional learning) work starts in the classroom

Restorative justice ppl being trained again on it this year

4 pm – mtg end

Need to determine if 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month works for SIC mtgs & who will be on the committee

Need middle school teacher if possible