

MaST II PLC Minutes

3/4/20

Members in attendance:

Christina Schiavo - ELM, Stacy Leonard - ELM, Gab Goncalves - ELM, Meg Utrata - ELM,
Keirston Scott - MS, To-lan Tran - MS, Bridget Trautz - MS/K, Tori Jennings - HS/K

Admin in attendance:

Scott Balara - Chief Schools Officer, MaST Schools Network
Suzanne Colon - Head of Community Relations, MaST Schools Network
Caitlin Marshall - Lawncrest Building Leader
Kim Volz - Lawncrest Assistant Building Leader
Rodney Linder - Dean
Matt DiRocco - Dean
Bill Keenan - School Programs & Athletic Director
Whitney El Laisy - Building Leader - called in

- Too many fundraisers or things requiring money too close together
 - School, club, and AMP fundraisers - try to better align things and explain to families it isn't an obligation.
- Sweetheart Dance - spent time in lines, food was good
- Black History Month - projects enough time, great and very successful
- K / 1st
 - Form notifications - physicals and dental notices
- 2nd / 3rd
 - Secret Star Student
 - 2nd Grade Trading Card project for BHM was a great project
 - Summer Camp - when will registration be available
 - Within the next month.
 - Enrollment locations for 20/21 school year:
 - 3rd and up Tacony
 - K-2 Lawncrest
- 4th / 5th
 - Too much homework and panic over PSSA prep
 - Both ELA in 4th grade
 - 5th could use more vocab practice
 - Movies during indoor recess
 - Classes alternate. Additional activities will be looked into.
 - Onward bound 7th grade program

Next meeting April 1st.

2/5/20 Notes

Members in Attendance:

Stacy Leonard - ELM
Beth Cole - ELM
Gab Goncalves - ELM
Meg Utrata - ELM
Keirston Scott - MS
Bridget Trautz - MS
Tori Jennings - HS

Administration in Attendance:

Scott Balara
Kim Volz
Matt DiRocco
Suzanne Colon
Caitlin Marshall
Rodney Linder
John Swoyer

Grade Specific Concerns/Feedback

Kindergarten

A LOT of homework for Kindergarten

- Packets are easier for parents to manage but not always practical from instruction standpoint because at times students may not have learned concept - lesson plans may have been tweaked due to pace of class learning
- Important to remember that if child is not able to complete for a night, inform teacher – teachers understand that “life happens.”

DIBBELS - Not clear to parents what the score means

- A letter will be sent home to explain scores and assessment measures.

2nd and 3rd grade

Study Island Benchmarks – also need clarity

- More clarification will be sent home

Bus 7694 – A lot of behavior issues

- Administration is aware and interventions are being looked into (Bus monitor, bus assembly, etc.)
- Parents should send emails directly to MaST administration in order to track concerns to address with bus company and students

Bus Concern when 2 buses didn't have drivers, last week.

Friendship Day excludes people and doesn't always have “positive spirit” that is intended. Next year, a different Spirit Day option can be substituted. MaST 2 is open to suggestions.

Reviewing policy for sending students home – specifically due to illness

Drama club and Dance Club Performances – Dance Club notice received late and Drama Club performance cancelled – both concerns have been addressed by Administration

Vehicular safety concerns with parent or “other transit” drop-offs at Lawncrest – will be looked into by Administration

4th/5th Grade:

Grades are being reported into Power School late – Parents feel blindsided when report cards are released due to late Power School reporting

- Will address at team meeting and grade level meetings

School Wide:

PLC to address notes

Rally tomorrow – Governor is trying to cut Special Education funding for Charters

110 North 8th Street – 9:30 AM – 11 AM (meet at Subway)

Sweetheart Dance – 2/21 - 1st and 2nd grade - Candyland theme (not father/daughter but special someone)

Tacony 3rd – 6th grade on 3/6/20 bring someone special - Roaring 20's theme

Following up on lunch concerns and bathroom concerns from Parent Email – has been addressed

Bully presentation was great – kids remarked that they got a lot out of it!!!

Let's continue to encourage hand washing and hand sanitizer, etc.

NEXT MEETING – March 4, 2020

1/7/20

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Christina Schiavo - ELM

Stacy Leonard - ELM

Meg Utrata - ELM

Keirston Scott - MS

To-lan Tran - MS

Bridget Trautz - MS/K

Tori Jennings - HS/K

ADMIN MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Balara - Chief Schools Officer, MaST Schools Network
Suzanne Colon - Head of Community Relations, MaST Schools Network
Chuck Puchon - Tacony Building Leader
Caitlin Marshall - Lawncrest Building Leader
Kim Volz - Lawncrest Assistant Building Leader
Rich Gear - Head of Climate and Culture
Rodney Linder - Dean
Matt DiRocco - Dean

- Winter Show feedback. Parents felt that the show could have had a little more variety from previous years. Possibly have students bring props. Rethink some of the song choices.
- 2nd Grade and 3rd Grade projects on holidays around the world are very similar. Consider modifying the project or changing topics so students are not doing a similar project in back to back years.
- Student conflict concerns - assemblies and information nights for parents in the works
- Mrs. McCauley going between the 2 buildings for counseling.
- Parents talked about better communication about field trips and in class events with more notice.

NEXT MEETING – February 5, 2020

12/4/19

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Christina Schiavo - ELM
Stacy Leonard - ELM
Beth Cole - ELM
Gab Goncalves - ELM
Meg Utrata - ELM
Keirston Scott - MS
To-lan Tran - MS

Bridget Trautz - MS/K
Tori Jennings - HS/K

ADMIN MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

John Swoyer - Chief Executive Officer, MaST Schools Network
Scott Balara - Chief Schools Officer, MaST Schools Network
Suzanne Colon - Head of Community Relations, MaST Schools Network

Chuck Puchon - Tacony Building Leader
Caitlin Marshall - Lawncrest Building Leader
Kim Volz - Lawncrest Assistant Building Leader
Rodney Linder - Dean
Matt DiRocco - Dean

GRADE SPECIFIC FEEDBACK

KINDERGARTEN & 1st GRADE

- Thumbs up – No concerns

2nd AND 3rd GRADE

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS

- Timing of notification of election results - election results and cast for play were both shared on same day. Was good life lesson but was difficult for kids not elected nor made play (Tacony)
 - Could kids not selected for play be used to usher or other roles in stage crew?
- Election – if students are not allowed to run, ensure they are given notice beforehand (behavior)
- Allowance of kids to use treats and other forms of incentive for election (Vote for me – here's a munchkin)
- What is the value behind Student Council for younger grades? Community Service and ownership of classroom space Value of student leadership was shared with students prior to election, as well as what types of leadership skills students should look for when choosing a elected member
- Students should understand roles and responsibilities of position on student council

4th GRADE

SCIENCE FAIR PROJECTS

Suggestions on how to make SF projects more manageable:

- Material for projects could be covered in class
- Time in class could be allotted for students to work on parts of project with teacher guidance
- Check-in points for students in class (breaking projects into more manageable pieces)
- Byberry families suggested providing a timeline for families to help through process
- Stress of projects participating in Carver Science Fair
- Administration will work on connecting Byberry and Tacony Science teachers to assist for next year – assist with scaffolding and helping to provide clear processes and procedures to assist w/ project

4th AND 5th GRADE

- Text messaging issues in 5th grade. Administration made aware and has addressed. Also revisiting issues with classes on kindness.
- How are we working on creating a kind culture balanced with accountability
- Social Media nights – at times not very well attended by parents

- “Ryan’s Story” was well attended and very informative (\$\$\$)
- Providing parents with information on how to navigate within the school and understand their rights and processes
- Consequences – do parents/students know?

SCHOOL WIDE - SUGGESTIONS AROUND SEL

- Parent Engagement events may be strengthened with child care accommodations – SDP’s FACE Division may be asset by sending staff and supplies to assist with Parent Engagement nights
- One example of SEL for younger grades that was used - Bob the Bully Buster presentation and then discuss in-class the following day
- Using Positive Characteristics with K-2 in Morning Meeting
- Could parents be made more aware of general bullying concerns or incidences in order to follow up at home
- Parking lot for kids for reporting concerns that they see? See something – say something

NEXT MEETING – JANUARY 7, 2020

11/06/19

Members in Attendance:

Stacy Leonard - ELM

Gab Goncalves - ELM

Meg Utrata - ELM

Keirston Scott - MS

- Caitlin Marshall introduction
- Matt DiRocco transition
- Recess volunteers consideration
- Do high school kids have recess?
 - No we do not have HS go outside
- Balancing structured play vs. kids just playing
- Possibly offer a volunteer sign up for recess
- Explanation of being mindful of holiday celebrations
- Diversity or culture night or multicultural night
- Conflict resolution sessions - is there a way to engage more students in that type of training. Have student ambassadors. Will discuss with counselor.
- Withholding recess from entire classes
 - Has been addressed
 - Behavior Management strategies will be implemented
- Benchmark results were nice to get but did not understand the context or what the results meant.
- Speed limit signs and speed bumps are possible for near future at Tacony

- Good variety of clubs offered at Lawncrest
- Library Committee
 - Stacy
 - Gab
 - Keirston

10/02/19

Members in Attendance:

Christina Schiavo - ELM
 Stacy Leonard - ELM
 Beth Cole - ELM
 Gab Goncalves - ELM
 Meg Utrata - ELM
 Keirston Scott - MS
 To-lan Tran - MS
 Bridget Trautz - MS
 Tori Jennings - HS

School Updates:

- Turning lane - we are trying to get a turning lane for Tacony campus
- Growth plan - figure out how the spaces will work to serve all students next year
- Active Play presentation was sent to families and rolled out at both campuses
- Media/library program implemented at both campuses
- Media Center committee - starting in November
- Anchor of the month t-shirts
- Working hard on recess to keep it structured and safe
- Assembly 6th and 9th for Safe2Say (Friday morning)
- Car line down to 8 minutes at Lawncrest
- DIBELS and benchmarking at Lawncrest and Tacony
- Hoping to have JV program for next year

Parent Concerns:

- Kindergarten specialist schedule and recess. Rainy days board games, small groups of activities, legos, puzzles
- Library for Kindergarten rolling carts
- Safety social and emotional learning incorporating that into the school day. Dealing with a lot of bullying issues. Proactive long-term.
 - Guidance lessons small group
 - Voyager Values assemblies
 - Morning meetings taking place - Mr. Dirocco started this week
 - LTS scheduling classroom lessons and asking for feedback
- Parent Night for all campuses 10/29 Minding Your Mind

- 6th Gr and 9th Gr scheduled
- Bus fights - building leaders and the deans
- Phone call from 1st grade teacher about him doing well. Appreciate the positive reinforcement.