

Meeting with Marty Agenda
6/3/19

PTA Elections - Board's Role

"Just PTA"

"Root cause" issue

Concerns brought to our attention

- Rigged elections (local, district PTAs and SBDM) which in turn impacts hiring, policy, building culture and climate
- Abuse of power by Principal and District Administration in some schools
- Redbook violations
- Theft, malfeasance, coverups, with no investigations
- Lack of Transparency, trust, accountability
- No built-in Checks and Balances, strengthen PTA and SBDM when weak
- Not capable of self-policing. \$800 on beg bugs, arrest record of President elect, patterns of squatting and self dealing by some officers, conflict of interest with paid JCPS employees serving. Sharon and Justin paid JCPS employees.
- Superintendent's admission that parents should be running PTA (and our evidence in some cases they are not)
- Nothing done after President elect arrest records brought to President elect attention
- Not reflective of student population, racial equity slot filled by white person, schools in low advocacy/high minority populations disproportionately affected.
- Going out of way to keep parents who advocate out - what are they afraid of?
- Correlation between low advocacy schools and low performing schools
- patterns of racial discrimination

Requests

- Audit and publish findings of demographic makeup of leadership in state, district and local PTAs, as well as audit for equity, consistency, and transparency in policies and procedures. (REAP)
- Audit and publish findings of communications between district admin and 15th District PTA leadership that led to Gay being removed from board.
- Request assistance from National PTA to review election process, run new election
- As a result of findings, develop internal best practices, including no "principal centric" control of PTA allowed, intentional efforts to promote equity and inclusion, Train staff, develop, send memo/put in writing, even if unenforceable, creates "frowned upon" behaviors deterring abuses
- Stronger rules around SBDM elections, principals "hands off", modernize, legitimize, make more accessible, remove equity barriers (REAP). Tie to IC, maybe?
- Consistent communication strategy in partnership with district and schools' largest parent org, in writing, in addition to meeting dates and minutes, publish term expiration, election dates and member contact info, send home regular info with student

- Expectation of PTA transparency of minutes, bylaws, emails, financials, oversight
- Organizations should not be granted access to school communities if they won't agree to terms. There are other parent groups willing to step up.

Difference in involvement level of some orgs:

- National Center for Families Learning
- New District PTA or PTO
- "Largest Parent Organization" runs SBDM elections,

<https://education.ky.gov/districts/SBDM/Documents/SBDM%20Election%20Handbook.pdf>

Examples of problematic PTAs

- Auburndale
- Crums Lane
- Maupin
- Seneca
- Layne Elementary
- PRP

Not Keeping Track of Race - Open Records Request

Patterns of Racial Discrimination

Examples of problematic PTAs

- Auburndale
 - Parent filed complaint against principal and money
 - Rigged Sbdm elections
 - Parent pushed out, labeled “liability”
- Crums Lane Situation -
 - Parent president pushed out
 - teachers filed to lead PTA, resigned treasurer/friend is back,
 - Chris is mole, principal knew about meeting,
 - Chris asked where going instead of saying don't leave,
 - Weston has not handled racist behaviors again, just like Mayes,
- Maupin
 - Treasurer pushed out/money unaccounted for/no audit
 - SBDM manipulated in 2017
 - Snippets from Audio of PTA Meeting and Maria/Joe
 - Kimberly
- Seneca
 - Not enough supports to discipline kids
 - Contacted by family that wants to change schools because they feel a Language barrier is preventing parental involvement/advocacy, provide translators?
- Layne Elementary
 - Parent President pushed out
 - Heather and Autumn are president and VP, no kids there
 - Spending money on teachers not students/parent engagement
- PRP
 - President has no kids
 - In leadership Over a decade
 - His Mom was president for Three decades before him
 - Recycled/multiple simultaneous positions. Local, state, district
 - Complaints from parents about not able to get involved, requests unreturned
 - Ties to Jerry Mayes
 - Murray County
 - Vendor fair was rip off

Maintenance Workers

Lawsuit coming

Ending Isms in JCPS

Overall city scores, not just JCPS, take into account white flight, privates, etc. Index for poverty, trauma, and “what’s left” Discredit their claims.

Fear of “white flight” response has created a system that disproportionately benefits the district’s least loyal “customers,” and they end up leaving you anyway.

Removal/discipline of principals, asst. Sups, report to OEA.

File complaint against Maupin principal and Joe Leffert.

File complaint with PTA.

Run for state

Start district PTA.