

LSRT Meeting

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Present: Cheryl Olson, Mary Osterman, Tawana Franklin, Norah Lycknell, Jane Malholtra, Camille Anderson, Andy Cohen, Tracy Scarrow, Allison Feeney, and Lucy Smiles

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by Norah Lycknell, Principal.

DCPS is currently in the process of reviewing the role of LSRTs in the schools and putting together better guidance as to what the LSRTs should be doing. In an effort to gather information from the established LSRTs, Luke Kohlmoos, Strategy Coordinator, Office of Family & Public Engagement, DCPS, attended the meeting to gather information about the Janney LSRT. The LSRT members shared their views with Mr. Kohlmoos. Mr. Kohlmoos stated that DCPS views the LSRTs as having three functions: 1) acting as a strategy team to help review/create the local school plan and develop priorities and to monitor progress; 2) acting as a clearinghouse for the school community to engage in what is happening at the school; and 3) coordinating various groups within the school such as Janney's SIT and other working groups. Additional topics discussed included such things as whether LSRT members should be appointed or elected, whether the LSRT should act primarily as an advisory board, and how the various groups at a school (such as the LSRT, SIT, PTA...) should interact with each other and which group is responsible for which tasks. He asked that the LSRT hold off on holding any elections until after DCPS has an opportunity to provide additional guidance as to the purpose and function of LSRTs. He anticipated that DCPS would provide an updated set of LSRT guidelines by the end of May. Mr. Kohlmoos then left the meeting.

Ms. Lycknell discussed Janney's drop off and pick up procedures. While the new drop off procedures appear to be working very well, with some minor tweaking, the school is now turning its attention to afternoon pick up procedures. Ms. Lycknell and the Walk & Roll Committee is looking for parents and the community to provide feedback as to how to make pick up better. Because the current process is unsafe, however, at this time the most workable solution is to make Albemarle St a no parking zone and to have pick up done in a jamboree fashion where the students line up with their teachers on the green top. The pickup location will change as construction progresses.

Ms. Lycknell also addressed recess and how it will be affected by the construction. The construction gives the school the opportunity to more effectively schedule recess so that all of the kids can enjoy the limited play space as a result of the construction. In addition, Janney is moving towards more cooperative play which fits into the school's goals of inclusion and respect. Ms. Lycknell hopes that Janney will be able to pilot new station games (either one per week or several at a time) on May 1st. Parents will have the opportunity to play the games with their kids at the spring picnic.

Meeting concluded.