

Tuesday, March 14th Merger Committee Notes

Time: 6:03-6:45

General Notes:

- Bailey took attendance
- Present: Ariel, Pat, Tammi, Bailey, Ben, and Autumn
- Bailey read mission and vision statements

Agenda Item 1: Review responses from MSA

- Bailey: Middle school curriculum could “blend.” Nice for middle school to collaborate to make a standards based curriculum.
- Kathy: Perhaps invite MSA people to join a meeting about questions we have. Tammi fears people would not speak up with their true feelings if we were to meet in small groups with MSA committees.

Agenda Item 2: Non-Negotiables

Authorizers

- Pat: Doesn't know enough about authorizers to have a strong opinion.
- Ben: WLA authorized by volunteers of America, MSA is not. MSA smaller entity, run by someone nearing retirement age. WLA has a strong standing with our authorizer, and Ben's preference to stay with WLAs authorizer
- Ben: Different opinions from MSA on who to go with for the authorizer.
- Pat: agrees with Ben

Facilities

- Bailey: Wants to keep the facilities we currently have.
- Kathy: Not enough parking for our kids
- Tammi: k-8 stay at WLA since we put so much work to create the facilities we have. Safety at MSA is questionable since there are multiple buildings.
- Pat: Keep our facilities and try to make k-12 all at the WLA site
- Autumn: Also wants to keep facilities at WLA
- Ariel: MSA not a great campus for any ages including for high school

Curriculum

- Ariel: Likes WLA curriculum
- Tammi: Also likes WLA curriculum
- Pat: Also likes WLA curriculum
- Autumn: Middle school CK curriculum is not developed and it would be a great benefit to have additional curriculum resources. Perhaps k-5 can remain core knowledge, whereas middle school expands curriculum

- Bailey: CK curriculum is incomplete and what is offered is not meeting student needs. If we do not merge, we need to consider developing a better curriculum.

Other Non-Negotiables

- Autumn: Small class sizes
- Autumn: Clear and detailed explanation of controversies, including the discrimination case from last year as well as the comments that have been made at the board meeting. Additionally an explanation, in detail, of what is being done to fix the issues. Trust is important. Pat, Ariel, Bailey, and Tammi all agree
- Ariel: Do not want any teachers to lose their jobs.

Agenda Item 3: Dates and Topics of Interest for next Meeting

- April 18th 6-8pm is the next meeting, if possible with MSA staff.
- Would like to have an open discussion with MSA staff. So come prepared with questions.