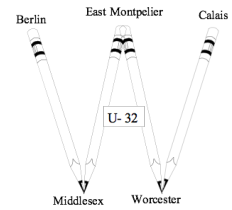


Washington Central Unified Union School District

WCUUSD exists to nurture and inspire in all students the passion, creativity and power to contribute to their local and global communities.

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Bryan Olkowski
Superintendent



Washington Central Unified Union School District Board Retreat Minutes - Approved September 12, 2020

Board Members Present: Flor Diaz-Smith, Stephen Looke, Jonathan Goddard, Karoline May, Kari Bradley, Lindy Johnson, Scott Thompson, Diane Nichols-Flemings, Jaiel Pulskamp, Chris McVeigh, Jonas Eno-Van Fleet via phone

Administrators: Superintendent Bryan Olkowski

Guests: Corrine Stridsberg, Consultant Nick Fischer

1. Call to Order: The retreat started at 8:45.
2. **Guidelines for Participants:** Nick Fischer asked board members to share one thing about yourself that you think people don't know but you would like them to know. Nick reviewed the guidelines for participants.
 - 2.1. Put away cellphones.
 - 2.2. Go hard on the issues, soft on the people.
 - 2.3. State your interests and priorities.
 - 2.4. Try to listen actively.
 - 2.5. Outcome: Norms.Nick suggested that at the end of this meeting board members should:
 - Be clear about what each other thinks about what are your concerns coming into the school years
 - Be clear about what your priorities are for this school year.
 - Be clear about what you know now and what you want to do about next steps.
3. Focal Issues
 - 3.1. What problems do you consider most in need of solution in order for the new Washington Central Unified Union School District to operate effectively over the medium to long term?

Each board member shared their top priorities for the district for this school year. The common themes were:

 - Educational Quality
 - Equity
 - Accountability
 - Impact the pandemic
 - How do we govern and communicate?

- Effective Learning
- Safety
- Budget
- Mental Health/Trauma
- Agree on what we can do.
- Institution Building
- Listening to the voiceless
- Childcare
- Long term planning
- Student achievement

3.2. What are your priorities for the school year 2020-2021? Focus on the priorities for your this year. If you come up with the plan. How we are getting there? Nick explained that the board should review goals regularly and evaluate them. From the list of common themes above the board suggested the priorities of their focus and then voted each member chose their top three.

- Building the Board as a governance group (10)
- Improving Student Achievement, Curriculum Audit/Discussing learning at every meeting (12)
- Addressing Safety & COVID (6)
- Budget Concerns/New Business Manager (5)
- Community Engagement/Relationships (6)

3.3. Outcome: Goals: The board started prioritizing the goals they wanted to focus on and what are the items that they feel need to be focused on. Due to time running out, the board only made it part way through the Student Achievement Goals discussion.

1. Building Board Governance

- Meetings end on time, create professional learning organization, Meeting Norms
- Shared managing of the budget process and the Boards role.
- Criteria/clarity of the superintendent evaluation/process.
- Defined agenda setting process.
- Plan in place to address difficult items.
- Maintain membership
- Greater Diversity
- Blueprint of how we want to operate. (Use Dr. Rice book)/trust
- What can the board do/change/the boundaries? Have any changed? Did we lose anything?
- Program/school updates (collecting feedback)
- First meeting –addresses one thing, second meeting–addresses others.
- Board Accountability-Communication
- Goals aligned district wide
- Building teams
- Decision/Timeframe work
- Public comments/on Agenda
- Board Calendar
- Student Voice
- Reduce the size of our board /Representation

2. Student Achievement

- Instructional Audit/Curriculum Audit
- Measuring Life skills

- Measuring Social & Emotional health
 - Focus on the achievement gap
 - Closing the achievement and opportunity gap.
 - Measurable goals and what are we going to do about them?
4. Where are the areas of common ground among board members?
 - 4.1. Outcome: Values.
 5. Wrap-up
 - 5.1. What was done in the workshop? The board members realized the commonalities they have in the direction the board would like to go. The board recognizes the priorities for the year. The board will work to clearly define 3 priorities. The board defined goals and brainstormed pretty long lists items and recognize that they have a lot of work to do. The board is moving more towards coherence. Things still seems mushy and they need to work on closing the achievement gap.
 - 5.2. What are the next steps?

The board talked about what structure works for defining the goals and what outcome are they looking for from each meeting. There was question about if the board can draft the goals and outcomes on their own or have someone from the outside involved.
 6. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 1:57.

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Ksepka