

Special Meeting
Board Retreat
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
March 21, 2019

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the District Meeting Room at the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, on March 21, 2019.

Board President Annemarie Maini called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, the Libraries, The Star Ledger, the News Record and all schools.

ROLL CALL: Present: Board Member Adamson, Board Member E. Baker, Board Member Cuttle, Board President Maini, Board Member Mazzocchi, Student Representative Hannah Silver

Absent: Board Member R. Baker, Board Member Farfan, Board Member Lawson-Muhammad, Board Member Wright

5 VOTING MEMBERS AND ONE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

None.

DISCUSSION

ELEMENTARY CONFIGURATION - *Ann Bodnar*

Curriculum Director Ann Bodnar presented information regarding the progression of the Elementary Integration and Innovation Plan including the following:

- Principals, Central Office Representatives and Integration Consultant Eddie Fergus meet regularly to discuss the integration process, theme schools and best practices across the country with particular focus on what variables lead to deep and meaningful change. Assistant Principals and Supervisors have recently been invited to join these discussions.
- A parent group was created with representatives from all elementary schools and some Central Office staff. Karen Weiland, Maureen Jones, Amy Foreman and Eddie Fergus lead this team. Their purpose is to be a bridge to the community as the district goes through this process. First planned event "Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom" is planned for Monday, March 25th. Tickets are still available on the Parenting Center website.
- Elementary principals have created a list of teachers from each building to be a part of the Integration and Innovation Plan.
- STEM Supervisors and the Director of Curriculum visited PS 28 in Jersey City, NJ
- Principals, supervisors and some central office representatives will visit Cambridge and Andover, Massachusetts in April to visit their theme schools.

- Principals, Director of Curriculum and Director of Technology will visit White Plains School District in April
- Principals, Supervisors and teachers will visit local themed schools in Morristown, Manhattan and Brooklyn.
- Principal and Central Office representatives will attend The National Conference on Magnet Schools in April. We are technically not going to be a magnet system, but so many of the speakers and topics at the conference directly correlate with our theme schools.
- The target date for the launch of the new plan is Fall 2021.

POLICIES

Policies were divided among administrators and Board Committees for review. Policies were divided in to the following categories: revisions complete, in progress, requires discussion or new policy.

Board recessed at 7:56 p.m.

Board Member Lawson-Muhammad arrived at 7:56 p.m.

6 Voting Members and one Student Representative Present

Board reconvened at 8:10 p.m.

PRACTICE OF INCLUSION

Lillian Rivera, Executive Director of Hetrick Martin Institute facilitated the discussion on the Practice of Inclusion - LGBTQ 101 Anti-bias Conversation.

The following topics were reviewed:

- History of the Hetrick-Martin Institute
- LGBTQ Populations
- Impacts of Marginalization
- Sources of Systematic Marginalization
- Sexual Orientation/Identity
- The Gender Unicorn
- Implicit Bias and the LGBTQ Community
- How do I become an Ally?

BY-LAWS AND COMMITTEES

The Board discussed phase I by-law revisions, finalization of Board liaisons and templates for committee meetings and agendas.

MOTION made by Board Member E. Baker, seconded by Board Member Adamson to adjourn 10:41 p.m.

Andrea Del Guercio, Board Secretary