

LIT Team Meeting - February 11, 2019

Present: Michelle Smith, Robin Kansky, Todd Bussey, James Elwyn, Spencer Nee, Holly McPhetridge, Chris Ferrians, Steve Priest, Patricia Devereaux, Carrie Christensen, Doug Taylor, Jeff Leavitt, Karlynn Funk, and Jennifer Butcherite.

Review of Norms - Michelle will try to communicate and solicit concerns/input every two weeks at least. Everyone was in favor of using e-mail for this communication.

Review "How To" for Adding Items to the Agenda - Please forward items to Michelle at any time. If follow-up is necessary to gather additional support or ideas for solutions, etc., this will be done. Then, items will be forwarded by Michelle to Brian Higgins to put on the agenda.

Review Avenues of Communication - Remember there are at least four people who can hear your concerns: union rep for contract issues, department head for department specific issues, evaluator, and LIT rep (Michelle) for (especially) building-wide issues and funds requests.

Other Business -

Scheduling: Holly McPhetridge stated that student choice for schedule is causing some behavioral issues in classes as students sign up for classes with all of their buddies. It also seems to be creating class size inconsistencies which are problematic. Steve said the same things is happening in Art. Jeff said students are having trouble changing their minds about their schedules because they can only go back in and see their original choices and have to see a counselor to make any changes. Doug recommended more discussion schoolwide around scheduling philosophy because there are many opinions and lots of variables to consider with impacts to all. Carrie called for transparency, especially with department heads around this issue, and understanding/caring as teachers are nervous right now with looming budget cuts. Mary pointed out that because LIT meets in March, scheduling discussions may be moot at this point. Carrie asked if whether this is even a LIT issue - maybe just Department Heads? Chris F. suggested that it was a Ricardo and Department Head issue, although class mix may be more schoolwide. Mary said that, as Department Head, she has not been asked to meet about the schedule with Ricardo or counselors. Michelle will follow-up and plan to submit for the next LIT agenda.

Board Decisions: Mary spoke passionately against the Board's recent plan to move our WHS librarian to a .5 position. Tricia stated that this will have ramifications across the state, if a high school with 2,000+ students can't even fund a full-time librarian. Call was made for people to attend the board meeting tomorrow evening to provide support/advocacy. Also, please remember that emotions are running high here. Please show kindness and understanding. There was some concern about the timing of the board's release of the budget information which gives a very short turn around time for response.

Schedule Discussion/Voting - Very disappointed at these choices after a full year of time to fix it. The fact that the schedule was set by the District seems like a cop out. Voting results were as follows: Option 2 - eight; Option 3 - three; Abstaining - three.

Post-meeting Action item - Members should Michelle thoughts about using LIT funds for CTE-requested drinking fountains.