



LOUDOUN COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

21000 Education Court

Ashburn, VA 20148

SCHOOL BOARD

Ad Hoc Committee Meeting – Academies of Loudoun Eric Hornberger, Chair

Meeting Minutes

09/20/2016

5:00 PM

Committee Members Present: Eric Hornberger, Jeff Morse, Debbie Rose

Board Members Present: Joy Maloney and Tom Marshall

Staff Present: Cynthia Ambrose, Odette Scovel, Tinell Priddy, James Dallas, George Wolfe, Neil Slevin, Neri Gonzales-Sales, Stephen DeVita, Gary Van Alstyne, Ashley Ellis

I. Call to Order

II. Approve Minutes from May 2016 Committee Meeting

Deferred to the next meeting.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Status Update on Academies of Loudoun

Ms. Ambrose introduced Dr. Tinell Priddy to the School Board members. Dr. Priddy provided information on her background, how she is passionate about making the Academies accessible to underrepresented students, and how excited she is to be a part of the LCPS team.

a. Facilities

Dr. Priddy shared pictures of the construction site. The main gate entrance is open and paved about half of the way to the building.

b. Principal's Remarks

Dr. Priddy revisited the mission of the Academies of Loudoun and highlighted the *explore, research, collaborate, and innovate* in the mission statement.

The principal and bookkeeper have been hired. The bookkeeper will start 10/3 and will be at AET until the end of this year.

c. Logo Designs

Dr. Priddy worked with a graphic designer to work up some possible logos. Logos and a polling slip were shared with the committee.

Staff will verify that the logo selected is not a trademarked logo.

Mr. Hornberger mentioned that we need to be strategic in how we approach the colors and logo. The logo should merge the three schools. The building should also reflect the colors and design of the logo.

Dr. Priddy shared that we have gotten feedback from the AOL Steering Committee and will obtain feedback from students in the three programs.

We need a logo rather quickly to begin marketing and working with LEF on a major gift campaign.

Board members completed the poll and provided feedback on the logos.

V. Academy of Engineering and Technology (AET)

a. Update on Opening

Dr. Priddy provided an update on the opening and reminded the group of the mission of the AET.

There are currently 150 9th graders on alternating A/B days. They will continue as 10th graders next year, and we will enroll an additional 150 9th graders, to double the program next year.

A question was raised about students who are entrepreneurs who are not interested in engineering or IT. Dr. Priddy clarified that AET is an entrepreneurship program focused on STEM. She also shared that the application process will be reviewed and may change.

Laptops: Each student received a high performance laptop. All of the security and profiles for the devices are managed by DTS, and students are required to sign the same LCPS AUP as other students.

b. Recruitment and Admissions Statistics

Ms. Scovel shared recruitment and admissions statistics for AET and AOS. She also shared enrollment by school, by program. The statistics for TJHSST 2016-2017 enrollment were also shared. Dr. Priddy shared information on the TJHSST application and admission process, including how TJHSST diversified its applicant pool. TJHSST hired a full time outreach specialist and provided opportunities for middle school students to develop a passion for STEM in earlier grades. TJHSST has also received grants to send students to STEM camps at no charge.

A request for male and female statistics for AET and AOS was made by the committee. The steering committee will bring that back to our next meeting.

Last spring, the committee reaffirmed that we have to focus on excellence first and foremost while working to address enrollment and diversity issues.

A request for information regarding geographic distribution was made. Staff will continue to work with schools to recruit applicants. Staff can get information about the geographic diversity. AOS, for example, draws from every high school.

A request was made for distribution by gender and special education information for the applicant pool and acceptance list. Special education information is not available for applicants. We do have that information for enrolled students.

Many departments worked together to make the opening of AET a reality this fall – DTS, DOI, Transportation, and many other offices were crucial to the successful opening.

b. Other

A request for a program update on the AOS was made, including information on the research aspect of the program.

A question was raised pertaining to growth for MATA and AOS prior to moving into the new building? Some programs have waiting lists while others have many vacancies. There is a plan for growth, but right now we are under the constraints of the size of the location.

We are working on a staffing model for the Academies.

VI. Future Topics

An update on our current program models and future program models for AOS, AET, and MATA when we open the new facility is requested.

VII. Next Meeting

We will wait to schedule until there is a need for a meeting.

VIII. Adjournment