

MSAAC General Body Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Date: April 15, 2015

Call to Order by MSAAC Chairman, Zerell Johnson-Welch (7:07 PM)

Adjournment: 9:15 PM

Agenda Items

- Opening & Welcome
- Acknowledge LCPS Administrators, School Board members, Teachers, and Staff
- Minutes- April
- Bylaw amendment
- Nominations
- Academic Fair discussion
- Panel discussion
- Wrap Up and Adjourn

Welcome

- Opened meeting with a welcome from MSAAC Chair
- Representatives include LCPS Administration, Principals, Assistant Vice Principals, Teachers, School Board Members, and Parent/Delegates

Meeting Minutes

- April 15th meeting minutes presented to the General Body and approved into the record

Bylaws Amendment

- Motion to approve proposed amendment to the bylaws: 10 parent delegates of those present voted to amend bylaws to include that a parent may volunteer to serve as a delegate, if a delegate has not been appointed or elected by the local parent groups or school principal.

Nominations

- Jamie Johnson presented the candidates for the 2015-2016 school board (Chair - Zerell Johnson-Welch, Vice Chair - Open, Secretary - Robin Burke). There were no nominations from the floor, all positions are unopposed. The new executive board was presented to the general body and adopted.

Meeting Activities

- Discussion of Academic Fair; general body approved to make the fair on a week night
- Discussion of committees for next year: Parent Delegate Committee; Communication Committee; Back to Teacher Institute Committee; Symposium/Academic Fair Committee; Social Media Committee. Requests for folks to volunteer to be on one of the committees

MSAAC General Body Meeting

Meeting Minutes

- TR - brief remarks on disciplinarian task force and boards review of 38 issues raised by the task force; the next task force committee meeting will be held in the board room at the Admin building on Thursday, 6/11/15, 5:30 pm.
- Mini break for pizza/snacks
- ZW reconvened with the acknowledgment of Michael Boyd, 7th grader going for his Eagle Scout spoke. He said he needed to get his citizenship badge by attending a civic/council meeting and chose the MSAAC meeting based on the topic.
- Aired brief video about 2020 strategic vision put together by Dr. Williams: What should the LCPS graduate know and be able to do? (<http://lcps.org/Page/146302>)
- Suyi Chuang, Project Management Supervisor, presented Vision 2020 sheet with the framework: mission, strategic goals, and core beliefs...participants worked individually for 4-5 minutes; then as a group for 6-7 minutes; then whole group share of the pluses, minuses, interesting to assess the 2020 strategic framework: MSAAC group comments were to reorder core beliefs (ex: 2, 3, 1, 4) and reorder strategic goals; concerns about how to measure the action/progress of the vision; diversity to be included as part of high performing staff
- TF presented on gifted and talented in LCPS - passed out pamphlet on the program; TF remarked the importance of self-selecting for testing; to start early (2nd grade); noted info is power & withholding of info is also powerful; noted Academies of Loudoun coming in 2018; MSAAC to participate in identification of talent development
- Quick discussion of lack of minority applications for Academy of Science; preparation is key; higher expectations
- Aired video: The American Promise (<http://www.pbs.org/pov/americanpromise/toolkits-workshops-students.php>)
- Panel Discussion: Panelists:
- Tarik Terry, Sr. PFHS - headed to Old Dominion University
- Christina Wertz, Heritage alum - Radford University
- Louis Wertz III, 2013 THS grad - College of William & Mary
- Justin Ayer, 2013 THS grad - Virginia Tech (Hampton for year 1)
- Kristian Welch, 2013 THS & AoS grad - College of William & Mary
- Brandt Welch, 2014 THS & Monroe Tech grad - University of Virginia
- Alden Carpenter, 2014 THS grad - Virginia Tech
- Laura Vasquez, Sr. THS - headed to Cornell
- Panelists were asked various questions by ZW moderator ranging from speaking on stereotypes; what did you see in video that you can recognize with & why; what do you say to someone who says you speak "white"; how did you feel with the UVA police brutality incident; why did you first not be comfortable with your heritage??
- Panel noted: diversity makes us unique; academic competition among peers; peer group influence
- Question from a teacher: What can do as a teacher to get out of those groups? Panel: Teacher to tell/show students that what doing is not going to yield what they want
- Question from parent: Did teachers push students to be outside of comfort zone? Panel: Yes, teachers did through selection of participants in group projects, etc.

MSAAC General Body Meeting

Meeting Minutes

- Parent Comment: Would appreciate teachers/admin to take time to support students; and support culture outside of the household
- Parent Comment: Never said child was bad; rather, stated child made poor choices. The student had a new light when there was a black male teacher in the classroom especially one that pushed them to do well. Panel: Would have felt like had to achieve more if there was a black male teacher in class
- Parent Question: How is college different vs. LCPS? How will you give back? Panel: In LCPS felt like a big fish in a little pond, exact opposite in college; remain successful by not comparing self to others; plans to come back to LCPS to give back; sometimes hard to transition to college from LCPS
- Panel Question: What one thing would you want Superintendent to know regarding diversity? Panel: Minority/Majority (minority has disadvantages in a certain space); important to understand each's advantages/privileges and disadvantages, by doing so comes a sense of compassion & willingness; by understanding others' struggles, humanizes situation...at the end of the day the choice is yours to be the student you want to be; teachers need to challenge students to do their best; be who you are.
- Parent Question: What are you doing with your minority voice in college, clubs, etc? Panel: Easier to get involved in college, just different than in high school

Action Items

- Email the MSAAC Secretary at dcaulk@modalinc.com with your email address so that you can be added to the MSAAC email list
- Stay up to date via:
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/loudounmsaac>
 - MSAAC LCPS web site: <http://www.lcps.org/Page/1494>
 - Email list