

Meeting Minutes for January 20, 2017:

Call to order

A meeting of Morris Brandon's Go Team was held at the Morris Brandon Primary Center on January 20, 2017 at 7:21am.

SK made a motion to approve the agenda.

KL seconded the motion.

In favor: Gordon Benedict, Nza Branton, Sue Friedrichs, Tracey Hudson, Sarah Kirsch, Kate Laing, Caron Solomon, Kelly Trotter, Grace White

Opposed: None

The January 20th agenda was approved.

Attendees

Attendees included: Gordon Benedict, Nza Branton, Sue Friedrichs, Tracey Hudson, Sarah Kirsch, Kate Laing, Caron Solomon, Kara Stimpson, Kelly Trotter, Grace White, Tommy Usher the Associate Super Intendant, Mr. Harrington the Assistant Budget Director via phone.

Members not in attendance

Members not in attendance included: all were in attendance.

Approval of minutes

GB made a motion to approve the December 2, 2016 meeting minutes.

NB seconded the motion.

In favor: Gordon Benedict, Nza Branton, Sue Friedrichs, Tracey Hudson, Sarah Kirsch, Kate Laing, Caron Solomon, Kelly Trotter, Grace White

Opposed: None

The December 2, 2016 meeting minutes were approved.

Reports

None

None

New business

KS made a presentation of the FY'18 Budget Development.

- Review of the Strategic Plan
 - The strategic plan is broken into 4 areas.
 - The critical priorities were pulled out and aligned with one of the strategies.

Priorities	Rationale
Increase achievement in Core Subjects	Manage class size, continue training for new teacher training
Implement IB PYP with fidelity	Staff 4 teachers, fund training for additional gifted teachers
Improve achievement in all subgroups	Monitor RTI/SST with fidelity, implement the new gifted program.

- Possible items for next year are Math/Science Professional Development and IB training for compliance.
- TH, GW, SF, KT all had questions concerning the salary line item on the budget. Mr. Harrington explained that the \$7,283,947 is \$85,310 per academic teacher. This is the average teacher salary with benefits for the entire system. The \$7,283,947 is the estimate of funds needed to pay the salaries for Brandon staff. This number is adjustable by the district.
- Morris Brandon is projected to have a decline in enrollment based on trends. KS was able to push for a projected enrollment number over 1000 which allows funds for certain positions not funded in schools with enrollment under 1000.
- SK asked if Brandon controls District PD funds. No, not from the district. She went on to state that some charter school control all of their PD Funds.
- The system has a \$38,000,000 deficit. The primary cuts at the school level are the RTI/SST positions.
- Staffing:
 - For next year Brandon will not see a reduction in HR classes, however we will see a reduction in students.
 - KS looked at what positions were needed to make the school run productively and effectively.
 - Moving EIP to the small class size model has allowed Brandon to earn additional teachers.

- The rollout of the new gifted model gives Brandon the potential to add more teachers.
- GB wanted to know more about the IB Signature funds. What do they cover? Signature program funds will cover the IB license accreditation, IB training for teachers including travel if needed, the IB coordinator position, and 4 World Language positions. KS stated that the cost for training should go down over time as the IB plan is implemented. At this time, costs are kept down by training the teachers locally during the summer.
- Mr. Harrington did not have the dollar amount available for how much the district uses to plan and implement teacher professional development. He will report back to the Brandon Go Team at a later date.
- KT asked about Quality Based Education (QBE) which is a fund from the state meant to cover core subjects for students. Mr. Harrington said he would get back to the Brandon Go Team later about the amount per student.
- KT also wanted to know if the Signature Funds were based on the enrollment. No, each school will receive the same amount for Signature Funds no matter how many students they enroll.
- SK and KT posed that maybe school based solutions could make up the deficit, however for this budget all school based solution funding must come from the existing budget. The school based solution proposals need to be approved prior to the budget allotments in order to add funds.
- To fund the SST position, KS will repurpose the work of an assistant principal to run the RTI/SST program.
- Mr. Harrington stated that the budget will be funded at 99%. APS will hold back 1% which is about \$4,000,000 system wide. If APS earns the extra funding it hopes to receive, then the additional funds will be released in July.
- SK-How can a charter school have none of the subgroups that need special funds? It all has to do with the demographics of the students who apply to the charter.

KL-made a motion to approve the December 2, 2016 meeting minutes.

KT seconded the motion.

- In favor: [Gordon Benedict](#), [Nza Branton](#), [Sue Friedrichs](#), [Tracey Hudson](#), [Sarah Kirsch](#), [Kate Laing](#), [Caron Solomon](#), [Kelly Trotter](#), [Grace White](#)
- Opposed: [None](#)
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:35am.

Announcements

Our next meeting will be February 2nd at 5:30pm in the Main Campus Media Center.
Check the website for the dates, times, and locations for all other meetings.

Tracey S. Hudson
Secretary

February 2, 2017
Date of approval