

Long Range Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

May 30, 2018

Attendees: Deirdre d'Albertis, Steve Jenkins, Laura Schulkind, Joe Phelan, Tom Burnell

Absent: Diane Lyons

Steve Jenkins will be taking Deirdre d'Albertis's seat on the LRP Committee when she steps off the Board in July, so will attend meetings to get up to speed with our discussions.

Citizens Advisory Committee

Joe was scheduled to have a conference call with Marvin and Dr. Lloyd Jaeger that morning to discuss the possibility of facilitating our Citizens Advisory Committee meetings. Because Lloyd facilitated the revision of the current CDEP Plan, he has first-hand knowledge of the District's Academic, Social and Professional Goals. What we'd like for him to do in these CAC meetings is facilitate discussions around how to continue to provide a first-rate education for students given our financial and enrollment constraints. Given his method of breaking into smaller discussion groups to surface ideas, we feel he is an ideal candidate to work with our team. (Update: Dr. Jaeger has agreed to work with the CAC for at least 3 meetings with the possibility of a fourth and assistance in drafting the final plan)

Of course, each member of the CAC will come with an opinion about "what we should do for the future." It will be important to hear each voice and work together collaboratively to forge a path forward. It is an open discussion about when to present the financial information to the group. We don't want to limit the creativity of the discussions based on financial constraints, but also don't want to wait too long so as to limit our ability to "deliver" on the ideas. Most important, the first meeting will cover the important role this group will play in educating the District about the priorities of our community. How should we balance the needs of all students. How do we provide opportunities and strong programs in the arts, sciences, humanities and athletics into the future?

Joe will reach out to the people who have expressed interest in participating on the CAC with an update. The first meeting will be informational in nature and is scheduled for June 25. Joe will poll the members as to their availability through the summer and/or Fall to conduct additional meetings.

The most important question for all our discussions will be focused around What's Best For Kids? The LRP committee surfaced a number of thoughts based on the year's discussions and would like to get the CAC's feedback:

- Class size
- Electives via online programming
- Machine Learning - where and how much is acceptable
- How do we intelligently enhance the experience of students
- What are some creative ways to engage new ideas
- What new programs have evolved at RCSD? What has worked? What hasn't?
- Shared services - what is the sense about cooperation with other Districts
- Consolidation - what sorts of structural changes would be acceptable? Rather than full consolidation are there other models that might work? Local elementary/middle programs and combined high schools that specialize?
- Opportunities for in-house special education programming
- Traveling teachers between campuses

Given Rhinebeck's identity and values today, what shall we provide given our financial constraints? What choices shall we make about financial investment for kids?

Prior to the initial meeting on June 25, all CAC members will receive digital copies and links to :

- CDEP pages 1-10 (intro and overview of the plan) with link to full plan
- NYS Report Card
- Link to LRP Minutes
- District Enrollment History - 5 years back, 5 year projections
- District Enrollment History compared to contiguous districts (Hyde Park, Red Hook, Pine Plains, Millbrook, Webutuck)
- Historical Budget Info including % increase and passage rate
- Free & Reduced Lunch participation rates
- Breakdown of RCSD's revenues - Tax Levy, State, Fed, "Other," and Community Support

(RSF

& PTSO)

In subsequent meetings, we will provide District Organizational Charts and Financial data

Next Meeting: June 8

Respectfully submitted by Laura Schulkind