



Bentley Academy Innovation Planning Committee Meeting

Bentley Academy Charter School
25 Memorial Drive, Salem, MA

Minutes of the IPC Meeting Wednesday, 11/20/2019, 5:30 pm. In the School Library

Members in Attendance: Jenna Cripps (Lead Applicant), Sean McCarthy (Principal), Kelly Alvarez (Parent), Kelly Feurt (Teacher), Laura Towey (Teacher), Jennifer Lima (Teacher), Elizabeth Ryan (Para), Susan Low (Parent), and Alyce Davis (Community Member), Amanda Campbell (School Committee representative); Rebecca Westlake (Superintendent's Designee), participated via phone

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Jill Conrad (Superintendent's designated facilitator)

Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm. At the beginning of the meeting, Ms. Conrad provided the group with an update regarding the teacher's proposal for compensation. After discussing the matter with the Mayor as well as members of the Personnel Subcommittee, the School Committee is likely to support the teacher's proposed compensation plan for any additional time worked beyond a normal 6-hour day for elementary schools. In addition, Ms. Conrad shared an updated proposal regarding how student assignment for the future Bentley school and the new dual language program would be managed. Members asked questions about the role of sibling preference. Ms. Conrad agreed to discuss those questions with the Superintendent and others and return the following week with clarity.

Rebecca Westlake, who participated in the meeting via telephone, walked the members through the written document she had provided. The document responded to the various questions that had been raised to date regarding the dual language program and how it will function within the school as well as how students enrolled will interact with the rest of the school. The IPC members feel strongly that there should be proactive and innovative ways to bring students across the whole school together.

Ms. Conrad shared a staffing planning worksheet with the group and gave an overview of the kinds of things that typically go into the staffing section of an innovation plan. The most important thing, at this stage, is to get clarity on the staffing model that the group would like to see during Year 1 of the innovation plan. Once we have that clarity, we can look to see how much of the budget can support that and whether or not adjustments need to be made. In this way, the staffing and budget autonomies work together to support the innovation plan. The group agreed to think about this for the next meeting and that Jill would invite Deb Connerty, Acting Executive Director of Pupil Personnel Services to come to the following week's meeting to provide insight on special education staffing.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.