



Bentley Academy Innovation Planning Committee meeting

Minutes of the IPC Meeting Tuesday, 1/7/2020, 5:30 pm. In the School Library

Members in Attendance: Sean McCarthy, Interim Principal, Jenna Cripps (Lead Applicant), Laura Towey (Teacher), Jennifer Lima (Teacher), Elizabeth Ryan (Para), Amanda Campbell (School Committee representative), Alyce Davis (Community Member); Rebecca Westlake (Superintendent's Designee); Kelly Alvarez (Parent), Kelly Feurt (Teacher), Susan Low (Parent) **Members Absent: None**

Others Present: Jill Conrad (Superintendent's designated facilitator), Nicholas DiPardo, AFT Representative

Meeting Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 pm. Ms. Conrad reviewed the agenda with the group. The IPC reviewed the draft minutes from the 12/18/19 meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Ms. Conrad then shared the response to the OML complaint drafted by the School Committee's attorney, which was sent to Mr. Andrade and to the Attorney General's office. There was a violation in terms of the delay in completing and approving the minutes. The response apologizes for the error and confirms the IPC's commitment to complete and approve minutes in a more timely manner.

Ms. Conrad then updated the group on the changes to the draft document which included developing a more robust and detailed executive summary so that once the draft is finalized, readers can get a clear sense of the details by reading the executive summary. The group then reviewed and discussed each section, including the suggested revisions submitted by the teachers. Language that satisfied all parties was agreed to be incorporated into the final draft of the plan.

Ms. Low advocated to include more in the plan that would commit the school to the efforts to deepen and expand science, technology, engineering, arts, and math (STEAM) learning. The group agreed on new language that will be incorporated into the final draft of the plan.

Ms. Alvarez raised her strong concerns about the section that includes a "vote trigger" where if a principal were to propose more than one role that is considered a "unique role," a majority of the BALT (Bentley Academy Leadership Team) members could require that the matter be brought to the All-Staff Assembly for a vote. Ms. Alvarez felt strongly that this it was not an appropriate role for staff members to vote on positions. Other members disagreed stating that it would not involve a vote regarding any existing position or the hiring for those positions, but rather the creation of new positions or changes to existing positions that became vacant. After discussion, the group agreed on compromise language that limited this "vote trigger" to only newly proposed positions that are unique to the Bentley. Ms. Alvarez said she would think about that compromise and hoped to discuss it at the next meeting.

The group set the next meeting for Friday, January 10 at 6pm. The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm.

"Know Your Rights Under the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c.30A § 18-25 and City Ordinance Sections 2-2028 through 2-2033."