

## **DOWNERS GROVE GRADE SCHOOL DISTRICT 58**

### **DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM COMMITTEE MEETING MAY 18, 2020**

The District Leadership Team (DLT) met on Monday, May 18, 2020 via Zoom video conference.

#### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:48 p.m.

#### **Present**

Co-Chairs Darren Hughes and Tracy Weiner, Todd Drafall, Megan Hewitt (*Ex Officio*), Emily Honn, Katie Hurckes, Melissa Jerves (*Secretary*), Jason Lynde, Kevin Russell, Justin Sisul, Jason Suchy, Craig Young, Jayne Yudzentis.

#### **Absent**

Michael Cassa, Matt Durbala, Erin Guth, Erin Menet, Angie Rybarczyk.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Jayne Yudzentis moved and Tracy Weiner seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

#### **Review Goals Progress**

##### *Goal 1*

Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Justin Sisul reported on progress toward Goal 1.

- 1.2(a) and (b): working groups have not met since the suspension of in-person learning due to COVID-19.

- 1.2(c): Plans for professional learning and development for the 2020-21 are being put into place. Recent professional development has included some crash courses on technology and remote learning. Working groups will consider the transition to on-site learning in the fall.

- 1.3(c): The sequence of curricular adoptions remains on track. Resource materials have been received and are being processed. Professional development in math is still scheduled for August. The social studies pilot is also scheduled for fall, but may need to be reconsidered depending on what fall instruction looks like.

- Due to the cancellation of on-site instruction and standardized testing, there is no data to use in team data-based decision making.

- Similarly, there is no spring IAR or MAP data to report to measure Key Performance Indicators. The District hopes to resume some assessments as soon as reasonable when in-person instruction resumes.

##### *Goal 2*

Community Relations Coordinator Megan Hewitt reported on Goal 2.

- 2.1(a): The completed Communication Plan is the culmination of several working groups' discussions and ideas, organized into a manageable and actionable format. It takes into account feedback from recent communication and school environment surveys. The document will be on the website when the final draft is fully designed.

- 2.1(c): The 58 Connects staff newsletter has been temporarily on hold during the COVID-19 due to communication fatigue. Surveys have been used to gather staff feedback during this time.

- 2.1(d): The Superintendent's Community Advisory Council met remotely in May and continued work on communication structures previously identified as gaps, including the new district website, parent education opportunities, the communication plan, and Dr. Russell's remote learning FAQ video series.

- 2.1(e): The Communications Satisfaction and Preference Survey will launch soon, and may reopen again after the Annual Report goes out. Some communication strategies have changed due to COVID-19, so the data will be useful.

Dr. Russell reported on 2.2, noting that the District has been improving outreach by involving all stakeholder groups in the remote learning planning process for the fall. Regarding parent education, the breakout sessions at the last curriculum workshop were posted online. The administrative team has worked with the Superintendent's Community Advisory Council and Curriculum Council to help shape these parent offerings. The District also partnered with the Herrick PTA to offer a virtual educational program on parenting during the pandemic.

Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Jayne Yudzentis reported on 2.3, Consistency.

- 2.3(a): The revised policy manual is on track to implement in the fall.

- 2.3(b): The Resources Review Council has not met. Administrators took their previous feedback and developed a plan for interventionist support; the council will meet next school year to refine those plans. The District is on track to meet class sizes developed last year. The staffing plan was built to meet those targets.

- 2.3(c): The District continues to work with principals and schools to ensure consistency in school building communications. The new website will have a consistent and user-friendly platform, and training will be provided for principals and secretaries on updating the school webs pages.

### Goal 3

Superintendent Dr. Kevin Russell reported that although the Board agreed to poll the community regarding referendum packages worth up to \$179M, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and its financial impact on the community, they did not feel it was appropriate to pursue community engagement regarding a referendum at this time. There is no possibility to add a ballot question in November 2020; the next possibility is April 2021. Timelines have been mapped out for each of the next few elections. The Board will rely on consultant Paul Hanley's expertise in analyzing objective data to decide when to resume community engagement regarding facility needs.

Other facility work is still necessary. The District is looking at emergency priorities and a variety of funding options. Budget constraints are going to hamper efforts; the O&M budget is not going to cover all needs at this point.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Todd Drafall noted that the projections presented at the April Budget Workshop were more optimistic than he would give today. While this year should end with a positive cash balance, FY21 could be in a deficit budget due to losses in interest income, CPPRT, state reimbursements, and unknown state funding. A low CPI may affect the next couple fiscal years. The District will begin the budgeting process much earlier in the year.

Dr. Russell stated that although the DLT does not typically meet over the summer, the committee will convene to review work of the Remote Learning Task Force so there will be enough time for implementation.

**Public Comment**

No visitors attended the meeting.

**Adjourn**

Craig Young moved to adjourn and Tracy Weiner seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:43 p.m.