

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

### **DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM COMMITTEE MEETING AUGUST 31, 2020**

The District Leadership Team (DLT) met on Monday, August 31, 2020 at 3:45 p.m. at the Administrative Service Center and via Zoom videoconference.

#### **Call to Order**

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

#### **Present**

Co-Chairs Darren Hughes and Tracy Weiner, Michael Cassa, Todd Drafall, Matt Durbala, Katie Hurckes, Melissa Jerves (*Secretary*), Jason Lynde, Kevin Russell, Justin Sisul, Craig Young, Jayne Yudzentis.

#### **Absent**

Erin Guth, Emily Honn, Erin Menet, Angie Rybarczyk, Jason Suchy.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

Tracy Weiner moved and Katie Hurckes seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

#### **Goal 1: Focusing on Learning**

Justin Sisul reported that although some working groups have not met due to the pandemic, others were created and have met frequently to respond to current needs. The Remote Learning Task Force was created, and grade level and department working groups met to plan for remote learning. The District continues to provide opportunities to review professional learning. For example, feedback from staff following the opening institute day informed the remainder of the week's professional learning.

The curriculum adoption timeline will require adjustment in response to the pandemic. The original plan was to pilot social studies resources in fall 2020. The teachers on the Social Studies Committee have received training, and grades 6-8 have decided to go ahead with the pilot on an adjusted timeline. Grades K-5 will postpone the pilot by one year due to the current remote learning plan.

The Differentiation and Assessment Committee will convene in September to discuss how to respond to assessment data collected this fall. MAP is available to be administered remotely to students. More information about assessments will be presented at the next Board Curriculum Workshop.

## **Goal 2: Connecting the Community**

Kevin Russell and Jayne Yudzentis reported that the District received several awards for its communications from the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association. The District has continued to develop its community partnerships with organizations such as the Lions Club, Rotary, the park district, the Village, and District 99. A recent partnership with the DuPage County Board will provide low-income families with internet access. The Communication Plan is complete and the final version for publication will be ready in October or November. Regular updates regarding the progress toward strategic goals continue to be given to the DLT and the Board. Regarding enhanced internal communications, the 58 Connects staff newsletter and weekly principal newsletters are designed to keep staff informed on a regular basis. Regarding enhanced external communications, the District launched its new, user-friendly website, which was designed with feedback from the Superintendent's Community Advisory Council. The Communicate 58 newsletter to families has resumed. The Board Policy Manual has been completely revised and is now online and searchable. The Annual Report to the community has been sent out and was designed to be more engaging.

The District continues to gather feedback by surveying families and staff when necessary and sharing results when appropriate. The District also shares COVID-19 notifications on the Transparency section of the website. Regarding the goals of consistency and equity, while the Resources Review Council has not met, the ASC team has taken these goals to heart throughout its decision making regarding remote learning.

## **Goal 3: Securing the Future**

Todd Drafall reported that the Citizen Task Force and work on facilities and capital needs have been put on hold as the District works through COVID-19 issues. The timeline toward a Master Facilities Plan is also on hold and may need to be amended.

The tentative budget, showing a tentative \$2 million deficit, was presented to the Board, and final budget approval will happen in September. The District had already committed to staffing for the 2020-21 school year, but has suffered a reduction in revenue from the state, registration fees, CPPRT, investment income, and OKEEP tuition. Because the District cannot sustain a deficit very long, budget adjustments will need to be made in FY22, which may include changes to staffing or programming. If circumstances have not improved significantly by January 2021, the District will need to budget based on the current economic situation. Discussions on maintaining facilities without cutting programs in this economic reality will require thinking outside the box, and considering a variety of possibilities such as restructuring, consolidation, or selling assets.

## **Public Comment**

There were no visitors to the meeting.

## **Adjourn**

Tracy Weiner moved to adjourn and Katie Hurckes seconded the motion. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.