

ACCESS Advisory

April 2, 2018 meeting

In attendance

District

Stephanie Soden

Stephanie Cameron

Cameron Vaughan

ACCESS

Anh Nguyen-Johnson

Jennifer Ellis

Scholle McFarland

Jeremy Johnson

Alfonso Garcia

Brigid O'Hagan

Grace Groom

Andrea Paluso

Nicole Iroz Ilardo

Introductions were made and a discussion commenced regarding the draft charter for the Access Academy Advisory Group.

District staff shared that district leadership is looking at buildings, which have available space for co-location with Access Academy.

Dr. Yvonne Curtis is the executive sponsor of the move and the decision making process.

A request was made about help with communications and public engagement- postings on website- scheduling invites for meetings and agendas.

Charter discussion- Superintendent's decision as to choice and location.

What we learned and some staff and committee directives:

- Communications and public engagement- posting on website- scheduling invites for meetings and agendas. Will do a running FAQ log to answer questions to share more broadly with the school.
- Would like to keep open the option to reconfigure the parent representatives for next year when focus shifts from urgent short-term planning to long-term planning.
- Committee would like to see the school move to three strands.
- Would like to have a district email and a follow up campaign.
- It is desirable to choose a location in proximity to serve historically underserved students.
- Concerned about the need for an increase in communication coming from the District. Want to see a greater sense of urgency and transparency.
- Want to see more backpack communications going home.
- Need a marketing flier from Communications after relocation.
- Need assistance updating the relocation process on ACCESS homepage.
- Need to address questions surrounding co-enrolled siblings. Trying to work with the city to help us with lengthy conditional use permits.
- Want to be much more deliberate about communicating to impacted schools.
- Need to convey a level of stability to parents and future potential students and families.
- Need to address gender and needs balanced classes.
- Charter needs to be updated when new location is determined. Needs to include interpretation of co-enrolled siblings and the need for testing rather than automatic sibling preference.

- Parents and staff would like to have district leadership spend time in the school and watch some classes.
- Instability has hurt application and outreach efforts.
- TAG does outreach with postcards and notices- ACCESS wants the same or similar marketing.
- Need to extend applications until the program is full.
- Some teachers do not fully understand ACCESS program. ACCESS needs to be perceived as part of the spectrum of services a district of this size should be providing.
- This program is not meant to be a substitute for TAG services in the district.
- If the short-term solution is a split campus and students in grades 6-8 are located in a K-5, it needs to be three strands with room for growth. Or 6-8 students need to be in a middle school. Can share elective resources. Need a teacher who could teach advanced math. If grades 1-5 are placed in a k-8- it gives them access to compacted math and other classes. How can resources be shared? Trainings for educators in the building?
- Need to discuss and share the leadership structure, go through charter to determine who will be involved and who is doing what from the district. Redraft the language for the purpose of charter.
- Questions submitted about enrollment- timeline for draft to be out- Tuesday afternoon- maybe could turnaround so to be ready for Friday meeting. Will help to guide our conversation on Friday.
- Need to send a district wide notice that there is still time to apply and that there is not a 100-person waiting list.
- Plan to meet with key district leadership Friday to discuss relocation further.

