

**Urban Science Academy
School Site Council Meeting Minutes
April 27, 2017**

Attendees: Jeff Cook, Even Chamberlin, Magda Zabala, Ellen Steel, Olinka Briceno

Review March Meeting Minutes motion to accept and approve the minutes by Even.

Dr. Anthony Pope, Instructional Superintendent – Dr. Pope had to cancel his attendance to SSC Meeting.

Feedback from Office of Engagement SSC Observation – Review Mr. Mitchell’s observation of previous meeting, mostly positive feed back. Suggestions were made regarding students having a voice in SSC. A suggestion for student’s reps to report back at each meeting was made, they will be included in next meetings agenda. .

Highlights

- Graduation Data Report – Shared BPS high school rate growth for 4 years, USA had an increase from 44.4% in 2006 to 60.3% in 2015. An increase 16.6% for USA, a member asked what is the projection for the next coming year. Headmaster spoke of the number of intervention programs.

- USA’s Poetry Team – Made it to the Semi Finals – They came in on 3rd. Mass Leap will have it online or YouTube.

- Symphonize Program - This is the only program in the district that addresses social, academic and included, 8 maximum capacity, includes major partnerships with Best Buddies, support group discussion over symptoms connected to Autism, parents love the program,

- College Acceptances & Scholarships – Decision Day

Overview of New Partnerships in SY17-18

- John Hopkins University Talent Development Secondary – Expanding from 2 to 4 district schools. Next year they will be partnering with USA, program structure full time intervention specialist for 9th graders, they will track academic, behavior and attendance, they will meet with the 9th grade team, they will lead team meeting, train and mentor USA’s lead. The team will meet weekly. The goal is they support USA when 2/3rds of students are no longer at risk. Currently 7% of 9th graders are on track and 70% of 9th graders are not on track. A motion made to accept new partnership, all accepted.

- Quincy College & Dual Enrollment – Onsite dual enrollment with USA & WRA. AP English will be offer by Quincy College, QC staff and USA teacher will co teach class, students will pass class and get the 3 credits from QC. They will not need to pass the AP English test, AP Statistics, AP Calculus class and AP Psychology offer by the QC next year at USA. Motion to approved partnership, all accepted.

Overview of Grant Applications -

- Mass Grad Promising Practices Grant Application - If grant were approved, it would allow for USA to offer a competency base summer program. USA will be able to offer the development English/math. Quincy college would provide the curriculum and support USA would be able to hire 4 staff for the summer programming.
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- BEDF School Advancement Grant – If grant is approved this will provide funding for 9th grade orientation, community building trip for students and families. After school bus transportation and provide a success development for 9th graders.

Review of Final Draft of Valedictorian/Salutatorian Policy – review and bring BPS policy for next meeting.

Reviewing 7 – 12 Pitch & Linked Learning - Leave it for next meeting in May. District wants to revisit for the next upcoming year.

Upcoming Events

- Decision Day Assembly – April 28th
- AP Exams – May 1st – 11th
- Math MCAS – May 16th – 17th
- USA Spring Concert – May 19th
- Prom – May 26th
- Final Exams for Seniors – May 30th – June 1st

Propose Agenda Items for Next Meeting (Thursday, May 18th)

- Branding of USA/Reflecting on Our Mission & Core Values -