



MARY LYON PILOT HIGH SCHOOL

Board Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2015

Executive Committee

Co-Chairs:

Hervé Anoh
Maryann Crush

Secretary

Katie De La Rosa

Treasurer

Ewa Logan

Members

Parent Representatives

Maryann Crush
Christine Lonergan
Ewa Logan
Elaine Meehan

Student Representative

TBD

Faculty Representatives

Hervé Anoh
Katie De La Rosa
Ashley Jacobson
Dan Kelly
Lisa Johnson-Bechtel

Associate Representative

TBD

1. Call to Order, 4:30 PM

Motion made and accepted to approve minutes from the meeting on June 18, 2015.

2. Headmaster's Report

a. Review of bylaws –

There was a recommendation to create a subcommittee to review bylaws to be aligned with district policies, which will take place after elections. Diane MacDonald volunteered to assist with this subcommittee.

A suggestion was made to have a parent representative from K-8 as an “Associate Member” and to have members voted in as alternates, which will be discussed in the subcommittee working on the bylaws.

b. Elections –

Elections were held with the understanding that changes to membership may be called for after bylaws are updated via the newly formed subcommittee.

Parent members:

Maryann Crush
Elaine Meehan
Ewa Logan
Tina Lonergan

Faculty members:

Herve Anoh
Katie DeLaRosa
Ashley Jacobson
Dan Kelly
Lisa Johnson-Bechtel

c. Future meeting dates –

Last year we met five times officially and added another meeting. One meeting has to occur in January to approve the budget, another has to occur at the end of the year. A suggestion was made to hold monthly meetings either as a full executive board or in subcommittees. A motion was made, seconded, and approved. Meetings will take place on

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the first Thursday of each month.

Meeting Dates:

November 5, 2015
December 3, 2015
January 7, 2016
February 4, 2016
March 3, 2016
April 7, 2016
May 5, 2016
June 2, 2016

d. Instructional focus –

As a district, there has been a shift away from focusing on MCAS scores to set school wide goals. As a school, our focus is on developing a three-year plan for a rigorous, competency-based education. This focus will improve student's success both in high school and in post-secondary education.

3. School Wide Initiatives

a. Uniform –

This year we are currently have about 90% compliance with the new policies and consequences in place. Questions arose about having casual Fridays this year. Herve spoke about the policy being progressive and since we are having success this year, he hesitates to make changes for this school year. The Board discussed the importance of maintaining a strong culture and trust between the Board and the student body, and that making changes this school year would be detrimental to the community. The Board discussed having five days of full uniform next year or having casual days be the half days.

b. Restorative justice (RJ) –

The Dean of Student Support, Dan Kelly, reported that the restorative justice approach is having a positive impact in our community rather than missing academic time with suspensions. The RJ practices we have been using are holding students accountable for their behaviors. He gave some examples of recent incidents where students had the opportunity to express their feelings, community service

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has been performed, and lessons were learned. Herve described how BPS and Massachusetts are embracing RJ practices as alternative forms of discipline. As a school we are working towards further including and educating students and families.

c. Community events –

The following school-wide events are taking place this month:

Student government – elections are Friday, October 9
Community field day – Friday, October 9 at Rogers Park
After school clubs – started the week of October 5
T-shirt design contest – students submitted designs and each grade will vote for their own t-shirt that will be made, sold, and allowed to be worn as uniform.
School spirit week – Girls Group is planning a school spirit week for the end of the month

4. Other Business

a. Parent Subcommittee –

This subcommittee met over the summer every other week. Primarily the group focused on researching programs and options for students to engage in on Wednesday half days, developing a partnership with the Harvard Ed portal, and gave input to school staff on how to improve communication between home and school. This subcommittee will continue throughout the school year.

b. Friends of the Mary Lyon Board –

The first meeting is Thursday, October 15, 2015 at 4:30pm.

c. MBTA passes for students –

All students receive a pass; students who are in the walking zone can take their “S” pass and student ID to Downtown Crossing to purchase for \$29 a monthly pass with unlimited privileges. Students who are out of the walk zone receive an M7 pass, which already has unlimited privileges.



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