

EXPANDED LEARNING TIME GRANT
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday, October 3, 2007

ATTENDING: Cheryl Hopson, Ton Nadolney, Todd Gazda, Nancy Spencer, David Hopson, Wendy Long

NOTES:

- 1) DOE has read the plans that were submitted in August and will be scheduling appointments with each district to review strengths and weaknesses.
- 2) We have submitted a second year planning grant. If awarded, it will provide \$2,500 to help with legal expenses, a November mailing/survey, and marketing materials if we move forward.
- 3) We walked through the planning timeline for this year. Nancy Spencer, our consultant through Mass 2020, clarified some of our target dates.
- 4) Overall, summer survey results were 62% willing to move forward; 38% of parents were against (40% return rate).
- 5) Mass 2020 will be conducting a conference call with Dave and Stephanie Fisk (Business Manager) on October 9.
- 6) Community partners: a challenge for Gateway (compared to urban areas) but the level committees need to identify some of the available community partners. A quick brainstorm included the Chester Tae Kwon Do instructor, Huntington Dance Center, Blandford Ski Area, Senas in Worthington (may have cross country ski equipment that can be used at Conwell?). Nancy also suggested that we involve area businesses and child care providers who receive vouchers through Gateway.
- 7) Communications strategies around upcoming dates and events were discussed, and include:
 - A Save –the-Date press release for public forum out 10/29
 - A special Breaking News release on 11/8 to subscribers announcing the 11/15 public forum.
 - An autodialed reminder from each school principal on 11/13 regarding public forum.
- 8) We need to involve the committee teachers more: make sure that all staff know who is involved and can be asked for clarification, more information. Have a teacher from each committee give a presentation to staff on 10/16 release day. Invite questions/concerns ahead of time so that staff are prepared to answer and have all of the research/materials they need on hand.

- 9) Nancy suggested we make sure we are showing how data is driving our ELT planning, even the decision to consider ELT.

NEXT MEETINGS: Meetings are set for Wednesdays that are not School Committee nights: 10/17, 10/31, 11/7; Also the public hearing is on 11/15.