

## Site Council Notes

11-10-22

-In attendance: Andy, Jim, Lisa, Aaron, Joe, Jeremy, Gina, (visitor – parent Michael Nilan)

-**Special Guest** Dr. Eric Thomas (MPS new area superintendent)

-**Meeting schedule** changed to Wednesdays instead of Thursdays. Committee in agreement. 1/18, 2/15, 3/15, 4/19. 5/17 4:30 -6:00.

-Mtgs will be hybrid- option of online or in person.

-Lost our talented secretary Sasha. New hire starting 11/29.

### -introductions

-Dr. Thomas shared his background and his first impressions of both MPS and Northrop,

--he oversees 16 school

-attending both Site Council and PTA meetings to get to know schools

-he wants “transparency”

- many parent volunteers helping to make Northrop what it is ... Jeremy came to Kindergarten in lab coat with microscopes for lesson, and sang with students along with his guitar. Kindergarten parent this year is making Thanksgiving center pieces with students, and a grandpa coming to talk about his service dog. (Lisa)

-Gina’s husband Carl making new storage unit for Patrol flags

### **Tutoring/Volunteering Program – Dr. Thomas**

-Northrop, Keewaydin, Wenonah, Howe, Dowling = performing well

-sub groups of students in each of the target schools not performing as well

-currently 60/70% proficiency rate, goal is move to 80/90% proficiency

-principals met with Dr. Thomas to see what can be done

-approx. 20 students per grade level not performing at grade level

Tutoring –

-identify kids

-resources – more special ed = more funding/resources

more funding if school has higher Free/reduce lunch rates

Northrop does not receive as much funding

-Volunteers (prefers wording over tutors) during school day or after school

\* Northrop could become one of the best schools in the state

-MPS school board getting intro to proposed tutoring program

-would be scripted curriculum

-option could be higher performing students work with volunteers, freeing up classroom teacher to work with lower performing students. More dedicated time with teacher

-MPS plan = tutors have scripted curriculum (MPS funds)

-Northrop Plan = volunteers to free up teacher

- will not come out of school budget
- so far seven volunteers have signed up for Northrop
- we are in early planning stage
- Andy applied for two fulltime Reading Corp positions to start in January
- Kindergarten Reading Corp position needs extra training
- Groves interventions for k-3<sup>rd</sup>, working with coordinator Lindsey McDermott and Anni (test coordinator)
- focus on literacy first, then math
- Aaron – partnering with colleges to recruit volunteers to full fill their practicums, strengthens partnerships with colleges and recruiting teachers, could practicums be spread, not compacted into a month?
- How are kids identified? (Aaron)
  - test scores only or teacher recommendations
  - test scores are screeners
  - there will be multiple factors for selecting kids (Andy)
- If MPS supported, will be assessment driven
- If school on its own – school will decide selection process
  
- Will getting volunteers affect positions that should be paid? (Jeremy)
  - “We’re doing so well that we are not being staffed properly”
  - \*-Northrop’s FAST/MCA scores are one of the highest performing schools in the district
  - 2020 scores were not used
  - Idiom – “All Hands-on Deck” works for both emergency situations and daily operations
  - focus on quality vs. quantity for volunteers
  
- What are the risks/downside? (Joe)
  - sustainability?
  - (Andy)
    1. overextending ourselves (more on teachers’ plates)
    2. students away from classroom instruction
    3. finding the right interventions
  
- How do you get rid of ineffective volunteers not performing up to expectations? (Joe)
  - Andy will deal with it
  - look at student outcomes
  - 4-6 week interventions
  
  - starting slow, a pilot, and grow

## **School Improvement Goals**

2022/23

Academic Achievement

Student Well Being

Effective Staff

School/district climate

- look at 5 Essentials Survey
- Northrop staff takes yearly. Give teachers time to complete during staff mtg.
- student well-being
- staff collaboration
- teacher to teacher trust