

SHEPHERD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Minutes of Local School Advisory Team meeting of JUNE 7, 2011

Present: Marcie Bane (parent representative), chair; Mark Pattison (PTA president), secretary; parent representatives: Lisa Connor, David George, Jennifer Pauk, Sherilyn Pruitt; community representative: Don Squires; teacher representatives: Steven King, Nancy Ulba, Javier Valera; union representative: Joele Michaud; plus Jamie Miles, principal. **Not present:** Charisse Brossard, outgoing parent representative; Mary Thomas, teacher representative; LaShahn Booth, outgoing teacher representative; Robyn Brooks, staff representative; Bianca Bostic, incoming PTA president.

A new community representative to be chosen by parents will be needed. Teachers are also entitled to choose a representative to serve, although none materialized this past year.

In considering the year ahead, the LSAT should look into future directions. Can teachers agree on programmatic change? How can the LSAT make a positive impact on the curriculum, school policies, discipline and the budget? Aftercare is not the province of the LSAT, although a committee has been formed to monitor the issue; fundraising is more the province of the PTA.

A summer meeting was recommended. It was suggested that the 2011-12 LSAT develop a list of recommendations and then prioritize them. Quite possibly, the fewer the better. The International Baccalaureate/Academic Enrichment committee needs clearer focus, and it was said that returning teacher representative Mary Thomas has ideas on how to achieve this.

Pauk, a returning LSAT parent representative, would like a committee to help this year's TV Turn-Off initiative flourish more next year.

While in past years the LSAT had a budget committee, this year's drawn-out DCPS budgeting process resulted in the LSAT acting as a committee of the whole, which included conference calls – and it helps to have a free conference-calling number.

The duties of LSAT chair and secretary were discussed. The idea was raised that a parent and a teacher serve as co-chairs, each taking turns running meetings. It was also suggested that the seating arrangement for meetings enable all participants to look at one another.

Pre-K orientation: Miles said that the June 7 orientation morning went OK. It attracted 14 students and their parents. While conducted during an unexpectedly hectic time of the school year, it was better than holding it close to the start of the school year. Miles said the meeting put stresses on getting and keeping parent, breaking cycles of behavior, and sending healthy food with your child.

Moving Up Day: Also held May 7, Miles reported that it went well.

Crosswalk update: Representatives from the D.C. government were to be at Shepherd June 9 to inspect the 14th-Jonquil intersection and suggest remedies to crosswalk blocking. There were suggestions of new paint, permanent poles to keep cars from blocking the crosswalk, ticketing,

flags for walkers, tickets, and other approaches – along with talk about bad behavior by some drivers and a brief explanation of how the afternoon carpool lane works.

Minutes: The May minutes were approved with the addition of Squires' name among those present.

Next meetings: After discussion, the next meeting will be held on TUESDAY, JULY 12, at 2 p.m. at the school, once confirmation is received that the LSAT could have access to the building. Michaud said that, in her absence, she would be willing to delegate another Washington Teachers Union member to serve in her stead on that date. It was also further suggested that the LSAT meet again the week of Aug. 15, when teachers are back in school but classes have not yet resumed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Pattison, secretary
Shepherd Elementary LSAT