

Minutes
John Eaton Elementary School Home School Association (HSA) Meeting
July 17, 2007
5:15pm
John Eaton Library

Present: Jeanie Mah, Kelley Ellsworth, Carla Hillery, Mark Boss, Connie Green, Dr. Jocelyn Drakeford

Purpose of Meeting: Dr. Drakeford called for this HSA board meeting to announce that she is resigning as principal of John Eaton Elementary. Her last day will be August 3rd. Dr. Drakeford, along with Ms. Patricia Tucker of DCPS, met with the LSRT and Eaton faculty earlier in the day. In those meetings, Ms. Tucker indicated that DCPS has already started the process to find qualified and desirable candidates for Eaton.

Dr. Drakeford has recorded an automated phone message that should go out to all Eaton households tonight at 7pm. In her message, Dr. Drakeford will announce her imminent departure and also invite the Eaton community to a meeting this Thursday, July 19th from 6:30-8:30pm at the school. The objectives of this community meeting are threefold:

- Elect two interested parents to be part of the search panel
- Review the interview questions from last year's principal search and solicit relevant new ones
- Determine a ranking of skills and characteristics that the Eaton community feels our next principal should have. DCPS will match our requirements to the applicant pool and try to provide us with the most appropriate candidates.

Important dates:

1. **Thursday, July 19**, 6:30-8:30pm at school: Community meeting to prepare search panel
2. **Tuesday, July 24**, time TBA at school (tentative): Community meet & greet with DCPS-approved candidates
3. **Wednesday, July 25**, 8:30am –after 5:00 pm : Search panel interviews candidates and refers top 1 or 2 candidates to DCPS for hire.

Note: Per a new DCPS policy, whoever is eventually hired from this process will be the *interim* principal for at least one year. After January 2008, the Eaton community will then decide whether we think the interim principal should become permanent or if we would like to re-open the search.

Other: The incentive money came in just before the end the 2006-07 school year and will be put toward the laptop computer lab and teacher enhancement training during the upcoming school year.

Chinese Instruction: For the upcoming school year, 4th-6th graders will receive weekly Chinese language instruction while the lower grades will receive weekly Chinese cultural exposure.

Dr. Drakeford's Trip to China: Dr. Drakeford took hundreds of pictures and agreed to share all about her trip with the HSA at a future date.