

JOHN EATON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Washington, DC

Local School Restructuring Team Minutes
January 9, 2007

In Attendance

Dr. Drakeford
Alex Wilson
Emily Blakeslee
Diane Magruder
Lucy Mallan
Paul Basken
Karen McAdoo
Carolyn Barnhart
Noah Steinberg

I. Good News & Community Concerns

Paul Basken informed us of a Verizon Technology Partnership that can assist in wiring the building with CAT-5 capability.

There will be an Open House on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 9:00 am. Thanks to the H.S.A. for hosting.

Congratulations once again to Ms. Githa Natarajan, Eaton's own, who was selected as Teacher of the Year for Washington, DC. There was a wonderful article in the NW Current by her students in the School Dispatches section that explained why, in the students' eyes, this was most deserved!

There was a vigorous discussion about the honor roll & awards assembly that was held recently. The discussion centered on the recent newsletter coverage and how best to award excellence among our children. Mark Boss mentioned that a suggestion box had been set up to collect community input.

Alex Wilson mentioned an upcoming February 22nd Community Dialogue at WAMU-8.5 FM on "Education in DC: Success...Beating the Odds". They are looking for school based successes that deserve public attention amidst all the public debate and pending changes.

The Mandarin Chinese Teacher being provided to Eaton through a DCPS/Hanban partnership will not arrive until March, 2007.

Dr. Drakeford will be meeting on January 10, 2007 with DCPS facilities staff and a general contractor to discuss various repair priorities to the building and grounds. It

has been reported that up to \$500,000 for immediate repairs will be available to schools, like Eaton, which are not scheduled for full scale modernization till 2013. The priority list compiled by the LSRT last year will be given to Dr. Drakeford to guide this discussion. It includes repairs to the slate roof, gutters, windows, the west wing stairwell, etc. The repairs will be made by the local general contractor and not DCPS facilities staff.

II. Vision/Mission Process:

This was the formal structured part of tonight's meeting. Dr. Drakeford led the LSRT through the final phase of our input to a Vision and Mission Statement for John Eaton Elementary. The creation of vision/mission process was an action item that came out of last year's Strategic Planning and Assessment Process. Each LSRT member had been given an assignment at the earlier Saturday Retreat. We were to bring draft Mission/Vision statements, in our own words, discuss them and see if there was a common focus. The discussion was lively and clearly focused on common themes. Dr. Drakeford took all the available input and was to accept input from LSRT members who were not in attendance through Tuesday, January 16th. The next and most important step was to take the consolidated input to a Community Meeting on January 18, 2007 and to other venues. The goal is to engage the greater Eaton family in feedback and modifications to the draft mission & vision statements.

III. Enrollment Projection and Strategy

Building on last year's effective enrollment process, we discussed the enrollment projections to be submitted to DCPS for out of boundary for next fall. The out of boundary enrollment window is from January 20, 2007-February 28, 2007. We advised that some slots be advertised for most grade levels to increase interest and applications to Eaton. The configuration of the school was discussed in limited detail, knowing that, at least, we must plan for three sections of kindergarten, first and fifth grades. This would have impacts on classroom assignments and teacher hiring. An enrollment committee was reconstituted with Mark Boss, Paul Basken, Karen McAdoo and Alex Wilson volunteering. WE also discussed creating a commitment letter for current Eaton families, visiting five main feeder pre-schools and visiting Hearst, our sister elementary school.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Alex Wilson