STEM Academy SSC Meeting

Wednesday, November 18, 2020

5:15pm – 6:30pm

In attendance --

 K. Henry

 H. Condo

 M. Lundberg

 J. Hennessey

 K. Crotty

 A. Scannell

Time Keeper: K. Crotty

Note Taker: A. Scannell

Meeting opened at 5:15pm –

Reviewed and discussed recommendations from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) with a focus on developing SSC norms. <https://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/advisory/schoolcouncils/part3b.html>

OPERATING PROCEDURES

* Already following most recommendations (meeting monthly; following an agenda; taking and publishing minutes).
* Have not broken into sub-committees – not necessary to date.

MAKING DECISIONS

* All members are happy with the “thumb-o-meter” method (thumbs up = in agreement // thumbs sideway = not thrilled, but can live with it // thumbs down = serious concerns)
* Group feels the atmosphere is a respectful one. Members comfortable speaking.

OUTREACH / COMMUNICATION

* Can we develop a way for STEM parents to be able to easily contact the SSC members?
* Dr. Henry suggested to create a Google Form which can be placed on the school website and will draft one for the group to trial.
* Suggestion to create drop-down list to help parents categorize their feedback / queries.

MAXIMIZING REPRESENTATIVENESS / INCLUSIVITY

* Like the idea of bringing in non-voting members to broaden the voice of our community
* Can we poll families to bring in additional input?
* Emergency Forms being returned via Google Forms – decision to stay with this format since families are familiar with it.

SSC MEMBERSHIP + ELECTIONS

* Must elections be held in the Fall or can they be held in the Spring?
* Request to better define term lengths and how best to stagger terms to best serve our student population
* If a member cannot complete their term, how to replace?
* In advance of next set of elections, define expectations of elected SSC members
* Dr. Henry to review the regulations to determine what we *must* follow vs. what we are allowed modify to better suit our school.

SCHOOL QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN

* Tabled until next meeting

Meeting closed at 6:30pm --