



Lowell Public Schools
STEM Academy at the Rogers School
43 Highland Street
Lowell, MA 01852



Gregory Passeri
Principal

Nancy Cronos
Assistant Principal

Roger Morneau
Assistant Principal

Phone: (978) 674-4331
Fax: (978) 937-7603

School Site Council Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2021

In Attendance: G. Passeri, H. Condo, J. Nucefora, M. Lundberg, J. Welch, A. Scannell, P. Uy, S. Schiffer

Not Present: S. Meas

By invitation for agenda: A. Ventre, S. Brown, J. Robinson, R. Espinola

1. Introduction of Site Council Membership:

- Dr. Passeri introduced the membership that is a part of the STEM Academy at the Rogers School School Site Council and that he is the Chair and Heather Condo is the Co-Chair. There are others present based on presenting on agenda items, but they are not a part of the site council.

2. How Will We Operate as a Team?

- We will operate based on consensus as opposed to taking a role call, or vote, for each matter. Once something is presented, there will be open discussion and we will try to come to an agreement or a common understanding about recommendations toward the best way to move forward.
- Dr. Passeri was given documentation that each member here is in year two of a two year term, and the previous principal was able to set the term length, so there would be elections at the start of the next school year.

3. Problems of Practice – What will we accomplish as a school?

a. Social Emotional Learning

<https://www.lowell.k12.ma.us/stemacademy>

- STEM teachers, paras and administrators met and drafted our school’s “core values,” which is common language that will be used between staff and students for a positive based approach to behavior. Our core values are “Safe, Honest, Achievers, Responsible, Kind, and Supportive,” and stand for SHARKS.
- We also plan to continue designing and implementing a Tier 1 SEL intervention, which means it is an intervention provided to all students in the STEM.

b. Literacy

- Dr. Matthews (Literacy Specialist) and Ms. Robinson (Instructional Specialist) have been working with teams of teachers during common planning time in order to provide coaching. At the elementary level, we are using the Foundations program to provide a consistent approach to K-2 phonics and teachers are being trained.
- In addition, we are implementing “Heggarty,” which is phonemic awareness, which is something in addition.

c. Math

- We are increasing our fidelity within the Eureka Math program, which is used within LPS. The addition of math coaching within our coaching cycle will help support teachers here. In addition, we have met with ST Math leadership and pledge to increase the consistency that the program is used within the building at the elementary level. This is grant funded, and will be used as a math intervention, so we have to demonstrate implementation to continue to move forward within the grant. The past year within ST Math was not as successful.

d. EL

- This school goal is a work in progress, but our past research within LPS demonstrated that 86% of accountable talk was teacher-to-student, and not student-to-student. We would like to build student capability to use academic language and have discourse with one another.

4. Open Positions

- There are no open teaching, administrative, or paraprofessional positions at this time. However, in this space, we will report any open positions that are currently on the Compendium. The building is fully staffed, one additional part-time family liaison.

5. Building Improvements

- A special thank you to the facilities department for the building improvements already completed. We had our lobby reglased, had the exterior doors painted, and had our lobby painted new colors. In addition, we had new signage for the main entrance, and the basketball court is in the process of being completely redone--the logo will be painted in December, so it will be ready for the start of

basketball season. Also, we ordered door signs to label each room in the school. Dr. Passeri will continue to report on any building improvement efforts, or necessary projects at our future meetings.

6. New Business

- We discussed added parent communication and the questions were asked as to how we can offer support to families that require translation services. Dr. Passeri shared that, through the hiring process, we were able to add Khmer, Spanish, and Portuguese speaking staff. Additionally, another clerk position we able to be added for the year after Dr. Passeri heard from many parents that it had been difficult to get through and STEM required our clerk to support twice as many students/families as a majority of the schools within LPS.
- Also, we are in the process of connecting our building through Class Dojo, which can either be used as a phone app, in addition to the computer, but this provides the opportunity for translated, two-way communication. We also have access to a telephone translation service that is used within LPS.
- We discussed how we can offer support to families that are new to our district and even our country and Dr. Passeri shared that the Equity Office is going to be co-hosting a parent workshop here that will offer support in Portuguese especially.
- Members of this team are interested in piloting a parent work shop to be able to help guide parents with things they need to know that will help them be involved in their child's schooling.
- **7. Adjourn**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://lowell-k12-ma-us.zoom.us/j/86342161355?pwd=NHYzcXltdmE3QTdBOXhhY3FOWUN5dz09>

Meeting ID: 863 4216 1355

Passcode: 322221