



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

Gregory Passeri
Principal

Nancy Crones
Assistant Principal

Roger Morneau
Assistant Principal

School Site Council Agenda
January 13, 2022

In Attendance: Greg Passeri, Monica Lundberg, Heather Condo, Kristen Crotty, Shawn Shiffer, Roger Morneau, Jason Welsh, Jess Robinson

1. After School Program Update:

- **Color Guard (Mrs. Crotty)** Has been working to put together. Reached out to contacts at other color guards, asking for old flags, was donated \$800 worth of new flags, speaker system, cash. Created flier, asked about emailing. Has discussed w/Ms. Renni. Program will be for middle school only, due to height & maturity for handling flag poles. Planning to do Wed/Thurs to not conflict with Afternoon In The Arts. Not planning on competing to start, which means this is technically a Winter Guard. Has reached out to the high school, gotten support from the color guard leader there. Would like to stop by lunches to demo to kids.
- **Theater Program (Dr. Passeri)** Spoke with Tricia Neary. She wants to pick a theater production, but not sure about covid-related feasibility of a spring show.

2. QIP/ Budget Preview (Dr. Passeri) Process: First, staffing levels for effective systems. Then, prioritizing “luxury” items. Minimally, Dr. Passeri wants to keep current staffing levels, and then look at what we can add. There are some things that the district has to sign off on, like more SPED teachers. We could add, say, a reading teacher on our own, but for compliance (positions that the district is required to fund even if budgets get cut) we need permission.

3. PTO Report (Mrs. Condo) Meeting this week was cancelled. Currently planning for raffle baskets to be sold at basketball games. Considering offering chocolate/carnation sales for valentine’s. Pi Day fundraiser similar to turkey to pie the principals, if Mr. Morneau and Ms Crones agree. Has been done at other schools successfully. Mr Morneau agreed.

● **Memorial Day Program** Dr. Passeri has spoken w/Mrs. Espinola and Mrs. Brown about doing one. Edith Norse Rogers was a veteran. At a past school, had ROTC come, recognized veterans, etc. Question: how might we be considerate of students who may have had traumatic experiences w/military? Advance preparation, considering which grades to include. This event would be staff driven rather than PTO driven.

Q: could we also do something to recognize Pride in June? Color guard showcase?

PTO has been thinking of a talent show at end of year.

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4. Open Positions (Dr. Passeri)

- **Compendium Process within Lowell Public Schools:** Jobs have to be posted by HR. If you can't publicly state your positions before the start of school, you have to fill it as a long-term sub. Also, covid emergency licenses are long term subs. Mid-year hires are long-term subs. Positions MUST first be posted internally. If principal receives 2 or more internal transfer candidates, they MUST choose from those candidates. If fewer than 2 people apply for transfer, then the positions are listed publicly ("opened up"). This means we don't always have the option to hire on someone who has been in a long-term sub position, even if we are happy with them. This process is part of the teacher contract.

- **EL, Grade One (2), Grade Two, Grade 4 (2), Grade 6 ELA/SS, Grade 6 Math/Science, Grade 7 Social Studies, Grade 8 Social Studies :** currently filled by long term subs and posted to compendium process for NEXT year.

- **Positions added by district through ESSER:** (separate from compendium process)

- **Social Worker, Positive Behavior Teacher**

Noted: "Behavior Support Teacher" does NOT mean BCBA.

Currently posted as added for this year, but have not had qualified applicants.

5. Building Improvements (Dr. Passeri)

- **Short Term Projects** - possibility for portables, potentially to help eliminate bathroom congestion. Portables w/plumbing more expensive but needed. Dr. Passeri & Mr. Morneau have mapped the building by hand, Mrs. Mac is going to help digitize it to be able to tinker.

- **Long Range Projects** Dr. Passeri is going to go visit some other schools to see what's out there for STEM schools: St. John's Prep (just built a state of the art science building); and a STEM school in Boston that was an old school that was retrofitted

6. New Business

Any money in school-based allocations has to be used by February-ish. (general supplies, PD, tech). Dr. Passeri is allocating some of that funding for books this year. Ms. Lundberg is hoping to complete an inventory of the library over the next few months.

- Mrs. Lundberg reached out to the Laura Bush Foundation to apply for a grant
 - This would involve bringing out library up to a more current standard
 - What is unknown is whether or not we will be able to have full access with our antiquated software.
- Mrs. Lundberg has attempted to connect with the LHS librarian. Mr. Morneau will help out to see if we can make contact. She has also listed the head of technology to ask about the library software. Dr. Passeri and Mr. Morneau will help make contact here.
 - Mrs. Lundberg will send Mr. Morneau the contact info of who she reached out to so he can help.
 - She plans to continue applying for grants that will allow a volunteer, so a staff member does not have to do all of the work

7. Adjourn

Join Zoom Meeting

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

Meeting ID: 863 4216 1355

Passcode: 322221

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