

DETROIT SCHOOL OF ARTS (DSA) GOVERNING COUNCIL MINUTES-- Approved
April 15, 2013

- I. Field Trip to DSA Health Fair (2nd Floor)
 - A. Health Fair was from 2:30-5pm and sponsored by Mr. Demetral.
 - B. Allowed participants in governing council meeting to attend the health fair at start of meeting.

- II. Welcome and call to order – (4:50) (Council Vice Chair, Dr. Elizabeth Moje)
 - A. Acknowledged Mr. Demetral and health fair attendance.
 - B. Members in attendance: Deaidre Ashford, Jim Kelly, Elizabeth Moje, Glenda Price.
Members not in attendance: Stuart Frankel, Katy Locker, Lester Monts.

- III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – (Council Secretary, Dr. Glenda Price)
 - A. Minutes unanimously approved.
 - B. Elizabeth Moje explained process for posting minutes, including the timeline based on the Open Meetings Act.

- IV. Governing Council Updates – (Council Vice Chair, Dr. Elizabeth Moje)
 - A. Arts (Dr. Glenda Price)
 - i. Read over the summer opportunities that University of Michigan, using Knight Funds, can offer scholarships for: Avanti Summer Music Fest, Dance Theater of Harlem, Eisenhower Dance Company, and Mosaic Youth Theatre.
 - ii. Mosaic application deadline extended for DSA applicants.
 - B. Academics (Dr. Elizabeth Moje)
 - i. Curriculum teams are continuing work with academic areas. Working on Stratford, Urban Debate League, as well as new opportunities with the science curriculum.
 - ii. ACT prep program details are coming into place for next school year. Small group of seniors who are re-taking will receive a course in the fall semester. A larger course will be offered for 11th graders in preparation for March ACT testing. There is a possibility of a summer 2014 course as well, aligned with content areas.
 - iii. Mr. Gore and Mr. Carino worked with UM Masters student, Joslyn Young on an integrated social studies unit.
 - iv. Summer camps for incoming 9th graders being planned as literary arts and will likely work with Power Poets.
 - C. Fundraising (Dr. Elizabeth Moje)
 - i. Governing council was told that budget for next year would not change. They were also promised no “sweeping layoffs.”
 - ii. The university decided that the council should not distribute the Knight Foundation grant letter because the letter has an incorrect date for initiation of grant. Once terms are corrected, the council will consider the best means of communicating information about the Knight grant (which is awarded to the University of Michigan) as allowed by Knight Foundation and the university.

- V. Principal Report – Principal, Ms. Ahna Felix-Brown)
 - A. Academics

- i. Attendance- Enrollment at 603 students. Gives breakdown by grade-level. April attendance at 90.1%
 - ii. Report on School Improvement Plan—Plan in the process of being completed. Some components have been submitted and working with a few staff to finalize soon in order to be turned in on time.
 - iii. Achievement- No MME scores yet, though the individual students did receive their ACT score reports. Will report MME/ACT results, along with PLAN and EXPLORE when results are in.
 - iv. Reported MAP test areas of reported strengths and weaknesses by academic area.
 - v. Seniors: DSA is leading DPS in FAFSA completion. 128 out of 165 students have been accepted to a college or university. More need to be documented.
 - B. Arts Programs
 - i. DSA Wind Symphony awarded best overall performance at Carnegie Hall. Lady Achievers will be going this month.
 - ii. Wind Symphony recently went to MSBOA and received superior ratings—only DPS representative to achieve that rating level.
 - iii. Vision recently returned from a college tour. Will be singing the national anthem at a Tigers game commemorating the Negro League.
 - iv. DIA has 15 pieces from DSA students hanging—most pieces they have had.
 - v. Detroit Public Schools Evening of Fine Arts is on May 16. Check calendar to see additional upcoming events for spring.
 - C. Financial/Budget
 - i. Budget has enough for the rest of the fiscal year.
 - ii. Taking a closer look at line items for substitute teachers and facilities.
 - iii. Budget should be same for next year and hoping similar problems aren't repeated next year with lateness of budget.
 - D. Operations
 - i. Mr. Wood and Mr. Halkey are working on the class schedule for next year.
 - ii. Target class size is 35, per DPS.
 - E. Additional Update by Elizabeth Moje
 - i. Knight Foundation supported travel to Carnegie Hall and also got costumes for Guys and Dolls production.
 - ii. Updates on proposal format for requesting Knight funds. Teachers have ideas for use of funds and Ahna Felix-Brown approves and then proposals given to the council.
 - iii. Ms. Burrell is bringing in a guest artist with Knight funds. The visual arts department is using Knight funds for a guest artist series.
 - iv. Mr. Wood is developing an idea for a new program with UM Professor Schwartz that will bring ELA and arts into one project.
- VI. Office of Innovation Report to the Council – 5:30 (DPS Chief Innovation Officer, Ms. Natasha Baker)
 - A. Gives background on Office of Innovation and the creation of self-governing schools.
 - B. Provides information on other Detroit Rising Schools—includes 9 schools with 3500 students.
 - C. The goal for students in Detroit Rising is for students to graduate college. Data is shown for Detroit Rising schools with appeal that the schools can perform better with academic achievement.
- VII. Public Comment – (Council Vice Chair, Dr. Elizabeth Moje)
- VIII. Adjournment – (6:09)