

Council Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Meeting held at DSU Riverfront, 1 South Orange Street, Wilmington, DE 19801 and via Zoom

Public Session

- Helen Anderson chaired and opened the meeting at 6:02 pm
- Welcome and Housekeeping provided by Helen Anderson
- Council Roll Call provided by Helen Anderson
 - Attendees: Helen Anderson, AJe English, Dorrell Green, RaShona Brown, Deirdra Joyner, Lisa Lawson, Alethea Smith-Tucker, Alex Najemy.
- Approval of 12/17/2024 Minutes - Motion by Dorrell Green, seconded by Lisa Lawson. Vote unanimous. Minutes approved.
- Public Comment: No public comment
- **Old Business:**
 - **Partnership Updates Introduction by Dr. Laura Burgos**
 - *Alma Advisory Group Presentation by Sylvia Flowers*
 - Shared Purpose - recruit, screen and select best Principal for Bayard and Pritchett Schools
 - Focus on rapid improvement
 - Lead a transparent and collaborative search process
 - Guided input and needs by students, school staff and greater Wilmington community
 - December - February Timeline - Candidates Identified
 - Anti-bias training for interviewers
 - Determine Steps of screening and selection
 - Design interview questions and activities
 - Discussed roles of Search Firm, WLC Council and Project Liaisons
 - 25 total applications
 - 14 out of 25 applicants made it to first round of interviews
 - Three Step Selection Process
 - Round 1 led by Alma Advisory Group
 - Round 2 led by WLC and CSD Team

- Round 3 led by School Community, Principal Sup, and WLC
- **Site-Based Community Councils Introduction by Helen Anderson**
 - *Children & Families First Presentation by Kiera McGillivray*
 - Community Schools function as vital hubs, connecting students and families to support service navigation, family engagement opportunities and resources designed to foster academic success.
 - CFF has worked with over 80 schools this year
 - CS Individual Support - 8/25/2024 through 12/31/2024
 - served 541 students
 - 836 service sessions
 - 98.5% needs met during service provision
 - 42 SEL students served
 - CS Schoolwide Support - 8/25/2024 through 12/31/2024
 - 137 events and group activities
 - 10,735 students engaged
 - 3,218 family members engaged
 - 832 community members engaged
 - CS Climate Support - 8/25/2024 through 12/31/2024
 - 499 events
 - 162 meetings with school staff
 - Benefits of Community Schools/Councils
 - Improved student learning
 - Increased participation in child's education
 - More quality time for instruction
 - Training and enrichment opportunities
 - Contributes to vibrant communities
 - Cross school collaboration
 - Community Councils
 - Provides valuable family and community voice to ensure policy decisions are respectful, affirming and reflect the needs of students and families.
 - Role of Council
 - Identify educational and supportive needs of children and school
 - Assist in identifying community resources to support students

- Monitor wraparound service partners effectiveness
- Review school data/plan to develop academic improvement initiatives,
- Help create and/or evaluate policies and training
- Current Landscape
 - Recruitment
 - Stubbs Early Education Center
 - Joseph E. Johnson Jr. School
 - Info Session
 - Lewis Dual Language Elementary
 - Pulaski Early Education Center
 - Shortlidge/Warner Elementary
 - Council Formation
 - The Bayard School - (1/13/25)
 - Harlan Elementary - (1/15/25-tent)
 - Maurice Pritchett Sr. Academy - (1/16/25)
- **Effective School Boards Introduction by Helen Anderson**
 - *Update on Community Conversation by Rodney Jordan*
 - Community engagement list
 - Listening sessions
 - Discussed survey
 - Implementation Timeline
- **New Business**
 - *FY2025 Financial Snapshot* - Will be reviewed and discussed at the February 18th meeting
 - *Approval of School Leader Coaching* - Dr. Burgos discussed TNTP proposal
 - Invest in support directly to school leaders and other instructional leaders
 - Leaders align on a shared vision for high-quality, standards-and-shifts aligned instruction in Math and ELA
 - Six month development cycle: January - July 2025
 - Invest in support directly to school leaders and other instructional leaders

*Will discuss and review final TNTP proposal and contract at the February 18th meeting

- *Approval of June Symposium Planning and Execution*
 - First annual Educational Symposium
 - June 17th- 18th - Chase Center, Riverfront
 - Deep learning for Educators
 - Open to all City of Wilmington Schools Educators
 - WLC Three Big Shifts
 - Partnership with Education First
 - * Approval of June Symposium Planning and Execution - Motion by Dorrell Green, seconded by Lisa Lawson. Vote unanimous. Contract for June Symposium Planning and Execution approved.
- **Adjournment**
 - Motion by Dorrell Green to adjourn, seconded by AJe English. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.