

Council Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, February 18, 2025

Meeting held at Red Clay Consolidated School District, 1502 Spruce Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19805 and via Zoom

### **Public Session**

- Helen Anderson chaired and opened the meeting at 6:10 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, Starr Wilson.
    - Approval of 1/22/2025 Minutes - Motion by AJe English, seconded by Lisa Lawson. Vote unanimous. Minutes approved.
    - AJe English read statement for Public Comment guidelines
    - Public Comment:
  - Maddie Geller - Shared concerns regarding not holding high expectations for TNTP
  - Jamie Gaughan - Shared concerns regarding TNTP and the miss trust between schools and WLC.
  - Sara Braun - Shared concerns with moving forward with the TNTP organization.
  - Michelle Budd - Shared concerns about moving forward with the TNTP contract.
  - Steven Fackenthall - Shared concerns regarding broken relationships and mistrust with TNTP.

### **Old Business:**

- **Partnership Updates Introductions by Dr. Laura Burgos**
  - Reflections from Teacher Leader Design Fellows:
  - Carly Highsmith introduced four Teacher Leader Design Fellows presenting:
    - Joyce Lester - Stubbs Early Education Center
      - Understanding urgency of phonetic awareness
      - Increase of student engagement
      - Students challenging each other

- Book Talks
- Growth environment for student learning
- Selene Ramseur - The Bayard School
  - Efficacy and intentionality of lesson planning
  - Conceptual understanding vs. Deficits
  - Math concepts
  - Partnership on big math ideas
  - Student agency and accountability
- Yolanda Johnson - Eastside Charter School
  - Changing the language in Math
  - Fine tuning with coaching
  - Passion for development in her school
  - Students are having fun with music, motion, standing and eye contact
  - Student lead projects and development
- Tia Live-Joseph - Pulaski Early Education Center
  - 20 years teaching experience
  - Coaching has been very valuable
  - Systems, culture, data driven
  - Deep conversations
  - Happy to see where this could go
- Kristyn Hoertz - The Bayard School
  - Coaching has helped to incorporate new strategies in her coaching sessions with educators
  - Build classroom capacity and learning
  - Many new educators could benefit from this fellowship
  - Tools to help students become engaged and successful in their learning
- Effective School Boards - Helen Anderson
  - Community Conversation meeting February 26, 2025
  - Get feedback from community regarding school goals
- First Ascent
  - Branding conversations
  - Strong communication foundation

- Build trust, raise awareness, shift narrative and engage mobility
- June 2024 full website launched
- 3 big shifts: Students First, Connected Schools, Purposeful Partnerships
- Approval of School Leader Coaching Contract (TNTP) -
  - Motion to approve by Alethea Smith-Tucker, seconded by AJe English. The motion was voted on and passed with 6 votes in favor, 1 no and 2 abstentions. Motion approved.

### **New Business**

- WLC Authority & Autonomy
  - FY26 WLC Fiscal Management
    - Processes could move quicker if operated like a true non-profit
    - Manage entire budget
- SY 2025 -2026 Non-Negotiables
  - Commitment Year
  - Lead a network of school
  - What decisions can the WLC make
- WLC Teacher Stipends
  - Opportunity to reimagine what it is going to take to move forward from activation year to commitment year.

### **Adjournment**

- Motion by Dorrell Green to adjourn, seconded by AJe English. Unanimous. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.