In attendance: Principal Bell, Principal Clemens, Natalie Moffett (LSAT Co-Chair), Suzy Glucksman (LSAT Co-Chair), Harolyn Brown (LSAT SH Parent Rep); Liz O’Donnell (LSAT WTU Rep); Jeff Seltzer (Peabody Parent Rep); Allyson Kitchen (Watkins Parent Rep); Amy Bryan (LSAT Parent PTA Rep); Jill Stewart (Watkins LSAT Teacher rep); Rashida Green (Watkins LSAT teacher rep); Carmen McLean (Observer); Shannon Russell (Observer); Samah Norquist (Observer); Thu Pham (Observer)

1. Principals Updates
   a. Principal Clemens:
      i. Significant amount of testing has been underway
      ii. Feb & March – national history activities
      iii. Musical – Into the Woods performance being prepared
      iv. Two musical groups
      v. Feb – black history activities
      vi. Debate team went to NY and Philly – moved up to expert category
      vii. 88% of student body got into first 3 choices of HS (9 students into School w/o walls)
      viii. Increased enrollment in schools
      ix. Student Survey results - 74% from survey loved school – same as previous year
      x. Cleanliness was worst rated issue – starting program to address cleanliness among students and use of exterminator
   b. Principal Bell:
      i. Enrollment – trying to beat enrollment deadlines, can demonstrate that school will exceed student population project to impact funding – currently projected at -11 and want to show at least +20 to have met projection before the deadline; discussed initiatives to push early enrollment
      ii. Modernization – getting updates from DGS and DCPS; on track for August move-in
1. Delivering cages in April for technology to determine what will be transferred to new school, 10 boxes for teachers, not moving any furniture to Watkins
2. Summer operations will be held at Peabody
3. Staff meeting on Apr 11th to discuss logistics of move
4. Working to specify use of gym. Community mtg last week, Mayor’s office made it clear that it belongs to the school. DPR was in attendance.
5. Developing after school programming, will inform use of gym space.
6. Open to support in developing after school and shared use issues in rating an MOU with school and DPR

2. FY18 Budget Recap
   a. Natalie (LSAT rep) suggested presenting budget report to next PTA
   b. Would like to let community know what next year looks like and need to fundraise
   c. Principal Bell would like to have staff conversations prior to presentation to PTA
   d. P Bell, needs to start working with staff to implement changes
      i. Spanish and Library cut to 0.5 FTEs
      ii. Business Manager and LEA cut, added special ed coordinator
      iii. No cuts at Peabody
   e. P Clemens
      i. Met with affected staff – added following positions
         1. Spec Ed coordinator
         2. Project lead the way
         3. Added ELA and math

3. LSAT election
   a. Will occur at May ’17 meeting (held with PTA elections on May 24)
   b. Danielle, Suzy and Natalie rotating off LSAT

4. Achievement Gap Updates
   a. P Bell –
      i. Received feedback from parents and teachers
      ii. Task force met last week and worked on communication of actions
      iii. Sent out summary plan – feedback that there is a need to distill language
      iv. Task force members provided positive feedback regarding diversity of group and intent
      v. Bell – working to improve trust of stakeholders
      vi. Data shared with teachers are working on next year’s actions
      vii. New actions determined by parents, teachers and administration
      viii. Looking at best practices of other schools for actions that could be replicable
      ix. Discussion on lack of new funding, P Bell not counting on DCPS to implement change
      x. Focus on strengthening of core instruction (currently not consistent)
      xi. Measuring core functions using all data (Beginning of year, middle of year, end of year)
1. Focus on training and trust first
2. Teachers meeting bi-weekly on interventions to bring students up to proficiency – increasing student work as needed
3. Split groups K to 2 and 3 to 5.
   xii. Natalie reinforced need and hope that continue to work on collaboration between Watkins and Stuart Hobson

b. P Clemens
   i. Parents developing own gap program
   ii. Superintendent was not enthusiastic of leveraging Watkins effort

5. Teacher Retention
   a. P Clements
      i. Presented data on outcomes of hiring earlier in the year (more effective teachers).
      ii. SH making good progress hiring before summer
      iii. Retaining effective and highly effective teachers (92% in 15/16))

b. P Bell
   i. 15/16 Peabody 86% of effective and highly effective retained
   ii. 85% retained at Watkins
   iii. Reviewed typical reasons for Watkins teacher departures
       1. Relocation
       2. Leadership
       3. Behavior
   iv. Ideas for retention
       1. Behavior support
       2. Flexible schedule
       3. Encouragement and recognition
       4. Nothing
   v. Reviewed trend of teacher loss

6. Questions
   a. Reviewed categories of teacher ratings
   b. Expected returning teachers
      i. So far one teacher not returning and one maybe
      ii. Still some surveys outstanding
      iii. Most teachers at Watkins between “developing” and “effective”
   iv. Teacher IMPACT evaluation process has changed this year is more difficult to score highly effective
   v. Getting improved teacher feedback at Watkins
   vi. Carmen - Why did aids need to be the solution and how will 0.5 FTE position be managed
       1. P Bell – difficult decisions made due to budget cuts
   vii. Samah – which aides will be cut?
       1. P Bell – decisions made in June after evals

Minutes recorded by Jeffrey Seltzer