

Imagine Foundations Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 18, 2019
Hosted at Imagine Leeland
6:30 p.m.

Board Roll Call

Meeting started - 6:37pm

Attendees:

Board Members

Levonina Wiggins Jr.

Ebonnie Clark

Anthony Pollard

Cindy Chhim (Absent)

Catrina Murphy (Absent)

Aneisha Ceesay (Absent)

School Leaders:

Sara Cypress

Marson Richardson

Sheri Williams

Ruben Chiza

Imagine:

Lance Pace

Wilfredo Castillo

Geoffrey Jones

Nathan Evans

Tobie Bowie

Nov 2019 minutes was approved by the board.

Imagine Leeland- Presented by Ms. William, Ms. Cypress

School Excellence Plan

-Shared values

Students who were elected Pres. Vice Pres will be announced shortly, 26 students signed up 20-25 participants for PTO - main concerns: parent drop-off, discussed scholastic book fair, winter coat drive, communications support by emailing parents of current school happenings

Character Development

- uniform incentive plan includes eagle bucks where students can go to school store
- PFI plan for improvement - teacher's documents all supports they use in their classrooms
- Eagles nest - each class has bucket for self-de-escalation
- Lama drama envelopes - scholars can jot notes for teachers to share any behavior issues they may be unaware of
- Academic growth progress monitoring
- Missing academic gains as a school-admin team determined they had to build best methods to increase student performance.
- Revamping of data room aligned to start goals - teachers able to reviewed SGP of scholars to help refocus instruction so that students show growth.
- admin and teacher team determined that a Dec progress monitoring was necessary to identify Leadership team went to each classroom to discuss the importance of taking test to get accurate data. The chats helped because students understood the importance of the testing and the scholars performed well.
- IReady challenge: instead of winter packets students will work on IReady over the holiday break

Instructional expectations

- scholar's success time
- lesson plan feedback from coaches provided to teaching team

SMART Goals

- reading and math shows growth from Sept-Dec
- Leeland- remains a 4-star school
- met student growth percentile in math & reading

School Development

- professional learning opportunities
- 5th grade teacher Mr. Thomas just received his MA and license, over the years he has had great gains. Is now one of the top teachers

Enrollment

- trying to keep K-3rd with lower class sizes. Able to have larger Middle School classes more teachers available
- reading math classes average 14 students because there are at least 3 teachers per subject
- enrollment projection is 490

Updates -

- Arrival and Dismissal - school has received the ok to hire a police officer
- PTO- newly elected officers, establishing bylaws and rules
- Teacher Vacancies - newly hired academic facilitator – Mr. Richardson, hired new Spanish teacher (no behavior problems), special education middle school teacher still has a vacancy

Questions -

Ebonnie asked if the special education teacher position is a resource of self-contained?
Ms. Williams - it is a co-teaching position

Levonina asked about 50 cap of K enrollment
Ms. Williams shared that 25 scholars per class
Middle School largest is 21 students per class

Levonina asked about the winter packet?
Ms. Williams shared that i-ready caters to student's individual needs vs a one size fits all packet created by the county

Morningside - Presented by Mr. Chiza

Parent choice -

- more dads showed up; at the scholastic book fair vs the moms
- literacy challenge each month
- winter coat drive, building was opened for scholars who needed coats
- 8th graders received letters of encouragement for past
- PTO served the staff with a holiday lunch
- winter music performance - art and music department presentation
- Open house - 4 parents showed up on Dec 17th. Total 12 parents from all open houses
- \$10,000 made from fundraisers, still tallying other monies will present final count shortly

Character Education

- Empathy is trait of the month
- middle school led meeting about human rights and went into schools to share program
- behavior contracts have been created and counselors have relied process of tracking behaviors for IEP, 504, etc. meetings
- Saturday school being offered as restorative practice. Parents do not want to drop kids off

Academic Growth

- scholars have conferences with teachers to monitor progress to meeting STAR goals
- MCAP Literacy - character essay this month for students to practice for the spring essay project
- Do math and do the math now PD
- celebrated teachers for STAR growth top 3
- have conversations with teachers to make sure scholars are growing in literacy
- family literacy night to teach families how to support scholar's literacy effort

8th grade JA finance park field trip- students go through simulation of finance and they had a great experience of how money works

- how to keep scholars engaged through PD with PGCPs PEIP
- hour of code info sent to families, will begin in spring, starting to receive good feedback

-Micro society - jobs started 12/09, posted profitable goals, Keller Williams came to teach students on using dictionary and donated dictionaries,

Shared Values

- will go in depth next month about their 3-star rating
- major gains in middle school and went down in areas for elementary
- sat workshop for teachers asked on areas of needs
- counselor has social groups to support scholars with showing integrity
- letters of encouragement were given to scholars for past support

Questions-

Levonina - asked about numbers of Saturday school

Chiza - Dec had 10 less students. The goal is to decrease the suspension. There is a decrease in both sat schools and suspension

Anthony- seeing a downward trend

Chiza - can have numbers avail at next meeting. Seeing it's more of new students. There are 2 repeat offenders.

Anthony - asked about enrollment

Anthony asked for an Update on processing seeing in STAR data

Chiza - goal is 1.04 and now 1.03 in reading, scholars are vested. They know their reading levels. On track for math as well. Interventions during success time

Anthony- any reason why it was not included

Chiza - was included last month - that is when they last had data

Anthony - asked about academic growth and how it related to 3-star rating

Chiza - 4th & 5th grade is where the gap is academically. Primary reading went down, middle school went up, that contributed to 3-star rating. Last year they put a lot of emphasis in math and wondering if that contributed to decrease in elementary reading, wants to be sure teachers are aware of students' academic needs and making sure success time is properly utilized

Anthony - updates from the board

Identify opportunities for all to drive effectiveness

What is mission critical - want to focus the majority of board reports on academic growth and economic sustainability. The board will provide feedback in advance of the board Jan meeting.

Liked how Principal Williams had aligned their reports based on the school excellence plan.

Levonina - idea is to have a greater impact to work with the school teams. Goal is to have school teams refocus the information so that we. Board is looking to expand and shared if anyone knows some good candidates to let the board know.

Anthony - Looking for a variety of skill-sets with new members. Looking for parents and immediate community who would be good candidates for board expansion. Is important for all to be present at the meetings. Schools are doing a great job. The board wants to be able to be more effective. It's important that we all show up.

Levonina - talked about the site visits and how it's important for the board to know the information to present to the panel.

Pace - took old meeting questions and used as a framework to prepare for site visits

Pace - Loretta White (PGCPS) asked about where can we find the board meeting notes on the website so they are available for view at any time. Tobie has them and she will provide them to Mr. pace.

Chiza - asked for names and titles of current board members

Meeting adjourned - 7:43pm