

BLT Minutes
March 23, 2010
3:30 – 5:00pm

Attendees

Rich Conner, Bev Clonch, Lisa Reeves, Bobby Mullins, Phil Crocker, Elaine Cooper, Lily Ulmer, Linda Cutler, Melissa Denke, Margaret Bolger, Kathy Bledsoe, Shirley Rybock

Celebrations

Lawton's Vegas Night at the Space Needle was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who participated in the event and helped to support our school. Kudos to Kathy Bledsoe on her "inspirational" speech! Many Lawton students and families enjoyed the Magnolia Baseball parade and kickoff. Thank you to Ms. Cooper who led the community in the Star Spangled Banner.

Minutes

Phil approved Feb minutes. Bobby seconded.

Music Program

Elaine Cooper discussed Lawton's music program. Her presentation focused on the national and state standards for music as well as the required content and curriculum of her program. In general, the focus of this year's curriculum has been the musical element of rhythm and beat. Some of the highlights have included guest artist Won-Ldy Paye, 5th Grade Seattle Opera production of "[Siegfried](#) and the Ring of Fire" and the World Cultures theme. Please see the document entitled "Music Program" prepared by Elaine Cooper for more detailed information about her presentation.

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Elaine feels very supported at Lawton and she is always interested in feedback from parents, students and staff. In addition, she has very much appreciated a "room" parent to help run her program this year. Thank you Britta Bowman! She is looking for more help next year. Anyone interested in working with Elaine or any questions about the music program may be directed to her. She is looking forward to an exciting year of music.

Budget Review

Kathy presented the Lawton budget proposals for the 2010-2011 school year. The priorities included: maintaining programs and staff in place to ensure school success for each child, finding ways to maintain smaller class sizes and to provide appropriate, effective supervision for students. The proposals were developed by the Budget Development Committee, which was comprised of representatives from each grade level, the PTA, BLT and staff. The final proposal was approved by staff and will be presented to the district on Thursday, March 25th.

Kathy stated that enrollment is projected to be 432 students. The breakdown of classes will be 3 Kindergarten classes, 3 1st Grade classes, 3 2nd Grade classes, 3.5 3rd Grade classes, 2.5 4th Grade classes, & 2 5th Grade classes. The proposed student/teacher ratio will be 1:23 for K, 1st; 1:25 2nd, 3rd; 1:28 4th, 5th. There will be a change in the number of teachers. We have 19 teachers this year and next year we will have 17. This reduction is due to our lower enrollment number as well as I728 being cut which funded lower class sizes. This does not impact the librarian, the full time PE teacher or music teacher, However, for the 2010/11 school year, there is a reduction to .2 additional PE. We used some of our budget to raise it to .3 FTE. This will be a part time position that will not include benefits so our half time teacher will move and we will post and hire a new part time PE teacher to have our 1.3 FTE for PE next year. In addition, the PTA will be relied on for funding of tutors, playground supervision, crossing guard supervision, some stipends and volunteer support. It was suggested that we revisit the crossing guard stipend at the next BLT meeting. Kathy will provide an update as the budget process continues.

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Technology

Kathy stated that Lawton would reinstitute a computer lab next year primarily for assessing student progress i.e. MAP testing. The proposed lab will be setup in a vacant classroom available in the 2010/2011 school year utilizing old equipment. The question was raised about a mobile lab. Beverly Raines had mentioned that a mobile lab might be available for this purpose. Kathy suggested that we discuss this issue with Matt Johnson. Matt is a technology resource in the district that will be available to assist Lawton with this program. Phil suggested that Lawton develop a technology vision prior to reinstalling a technology lab solely for testing purposes. Many on the BLT agreed with Phil. Kathy suggested that we continue this conversation at the next BLT meeting.

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Action Items

- Margaret email webmaster January BLT minutes for posting on the website – March 2010
- Lisa Reeves email webmaster February BLT minutes for posting on the website – March 2010
- Ms Cooper email BLT music presentation document to Margaret Bolger for posting to website along with BLT minutes – March 2010
- Ms. Cooper submit article to newsletter with overview of music program including a request for volunteers to assist music program – April 2010
- Kathy Bledsoe incorporate the music program into the school planning schedule for 2010/2011 school year – September 2010