

# **BUSD Extended Learning Taskforce Launch Meeting Minutes**

## **February 22, 2018**

**Attendees:** Ty Alper (Board Member) in lieu of Dr. Evans who was out sick this evening, Lisa Warhuus (facilitator), Dr. Pat Saddler, Melissa Bottrell, Vicki Davis, Jennifer Dawson, Daniella Forney, Simone Gikanga, Angela Gilder, Valerie Gutwirth, Veronika Huntsberry, Tracey Iglehart, Marie Joiner, Aaron Jorgensen, Mara Kolesas, Madan Kumar, Leanna Lewis, Sandra Loving, Kelly Marston, Brazil McIntyre, Shilen Patel, Rich Proulx, Christian Rauh, Linda Roach, Kacy Robinson, Fanshen Thompson, Angie Won, Jay Nitschke, Lea Baechler-Brabo, Cynthia Allman, and Mildred Scherr

### **Introductions**

- Lisa opened with everyone saying who they are and giving one word that describes a skill they have to bring to this Taskforce.
- Angela thanked everyone for coming out and shared a saying from Ms. Woods, "It's all about the children and so we must always put the children first."

### **Superintendent's Welcome**

- Ty Alper spoke on Dr. Evans' behalf welcoming and thanking everyone for their participation on this Taskforce.

### **Taskforce Information, Expectations and Process**

- The purpose of this taskforce is to receive and discuss information that the Superintendent can use to make decisions that would benefit the afterschool program.
- Representatives on this Taskforce include: parents and staff from many programs within the District.

### **Informational Presentation on BUSD Extended Day Program**

Angela and Aaron presented the following:

#### **Why two programs?**

- Each program is funded separately
- Afterschool Education & Safety - ASES for LEARNS (All State Funded)
- Title V for BEARS (Federal and State Funded)

#### **Why can't we combine the two programs?**

- Aaron and Angela looked into why we can't bring the two programs together by having many discussions with different representatives from the State.
- To combine the two programs would require having the program follow the more stringent BEARS regulations:
  1. ECE-certified teachers and assistants
  2. BEARS require credentialed teachers
  3. 14:1 ratio at BEARS
  4. 20:1 ratio at LEARNS
- ECE (Early Childhood Education) to receive that degree:
  1. The focus is around childhood education.
  2. Have certain percentage of the classes taking in that program must be around childhood development.

### **The Two programs - Basic Structure**

- Five sites have both BEARS and LEARNS.

- Jefferson and John Muir have other programs outside of BEARS and LEARNS.
- Rosa Parks receives ASES grant funding but operates separately.
- BEARS program is not located at any of the middle schools.
- BEARS is open to all students in the district; however is based off need and students can be bussed to the nearest site.
- All LEARNS students attend at their specific site. Students are not transported.

### The Two Programs - Details

- The difference between the two programs' registration process, who qualifies, academic groups and staff was presented:
  1. LEARNS
    - Online registration.
    - Homeless and foster youth are able to attend without fee.
    - Academic groups organized by individual grade level.
    - Staff are NCLB (No child Left Behind) compliant, which is gone but district still has to follow.
    - Staff has to have 48 units college units or an Associates degree or pass a test that is currently being offered by the county and will soon be offered by the district that meets the requirement.
  2. BEARS
    - Detailed, in-person registration process.
    - Families can qualify for a free program based on income and family size.
    - Academic groups organized typically by K-2 and 3-5.
    - Teachers and assistants are ECE certified.
    - Assistants has to have 6 units in childhood development courses.
    - Teachers have to do a certain amount of hours that focus on childhood development.
- Both programs offer Academic support, nutritious snack, structured recreation, enrichment, and income-based fee scale.

### Funding

- LEARNS program is funded by ASES Grant.
- LEARNS program has parent fees.
- LEARNS program from 2013 to present may have decreased in funding during certain years. The decrease is based on reductions due to not meeting the minimum number of hours (attendance) at certain schools. When you don't meet your attendance the State will reduce the grant.
- Middle school parents must have their student to sign in and sign out. Many don't do that and when the district go to report attendance, if they don't have a signature, we lose money. *We must have signatures not only for accountability but also for funding. We must have signature present daily just like teachers take attendance daily.*
- Special Ed provides transportation and salaries.
- Online payment system for LEARNS parents has been working very well.
- BEARS is funded by Title V.
- Some parents pay fees to BEARS program.

## **Elementary Summer School Program**

- Elementary Summer School program is run through the BEARS program which is held at three sites depending on availability.
- No Learns program in the summer only BEARS.
- We serve more students of color and low income families for the summer programs.
- Goal is to decrease summer slide by focusing on literacy and math.
- Title I is only used for the 19 days for the academic portion. Not afternoon portion.
- Elementary Summer School Program Funding totals \$450,000.00.

## **Afterschool Areas of Focus**

- To increase Staff Development for all LEARNS and BEARS staff, Special Education and Instructional Technicians:
  - Enrichment lesson planning.
  - Student-centered Social-Emotional awareness.
  - Armed intruder training - District is working with other entities to make sure we are fully prepared in case of an emergency. It is important that we are prepared in the afterschool program as well.
- Implementation of new program management software for LEARNS.
- Introduction of online math intervention program in BEARS.

## **Elementary Summer School Areas of Focus**

- Earlier recruitment of staff.
- Focus on math fluency through interactive tools.
- Hands-on science learning.
- Inclusion of online intervention programs.
- There will be a Summer School Taskforce committee.

## **Afterschool Challenges**

- Hiring, developing, and retaining highly-qualified staff.
- Operating two separate programs for children with similar needs.

## **Participants comments and Reflections**

- BEARS/LEARNS structure regarding certificated staff vs classified (assistants).
- Staffing requirements for programs outside of BEARS/LEARNS?
- Can we hear from coordinators of other non BEARS/LEARNS programs?
- Concrete breakdown of funding sources and expenditures for Summer School.
- Taskforce wants to also hear from the Instructional Technicians at the different sites.
- Priorities - achievement, equity, and financial.
- Site Staff - voice.
- Data on staff retention
  1. How long staff stay?
  2. How long current staff have been with program?
- Are there ways to have programs together?
  1. Is it possible?
  2. Could it be made to work?
  3. Do the populations really have enough similarities?
- Hiring/recruitment: looking to multi-jobs to create full-time staff?
- Are we limited to LEARNS and BEARS? or Can we discuss/consider other programs?

- Difficult to differentiate between BEARS/LEARNS programs.
- Some places more clear distinction between BEARS/LEARNS
- Where does PTA enrichment fall in this? How do we do integration?
  1. What is the process to achieve consensus?
  2. Bridge from understanding.
  3. Design that process and parameters.
  4. What atmosphere do we want to foster.
  5. How will we work methodically to make a difference.
- This taskforce is focusing on Elementary and Middle programs only.
- Is it required to have an afterschool program through the district?
- Is the taskforce only limited to talk about the two programs or can the discussion also be about other programs like the one at John Muir?
- As we work we want to be responsive to what comes up the best we can.
- Will elementary and middle school Taskforces work together?
- We are going to make clear recommendations to the superintendent on how the afterschool programs should be.
- More space is needed in the after school programs.
- Parents are on waiting lists.
- Want to increase enrollment but can't.
- As a group we are going to have to prioritize.
- Working with City programs?
- What is the impact on labor?

### **Action Items**

- Data Requests are due by 2/27 email them to [elt@berkeley.net](mailto:elt@berkeley.net)
- Questions can be emailed to [elt@berkeley.net](mailto:elt@berkeley.net)
- Lisa will check with Dr. Evans regarding clarification of parameters and the purpose behind the task force.
- Share ELT email access with Danielle, gather all slides from Lisa, Pat, Aaron/Angela to distribute.
- Compile Roster and email list.
- Email out all slides to roster.
- Compile list for Summer School Sub committee:
  1. Participants who signed up on 2/22 - Marie Joiner, Vikki Davis, Tracey Iglehardt, Rich Proulx, and Angie Won

### **Future Dates of Importance**

- Afterschool Subcommittee Meeting Dates
  - March 8
  - March 19
  - April 16
  - May 7
- ELT Process and Timelines
  - Feb - May: Subcommittee meetings
  - May - June Draft recommendations
  - September whole Taskforce reconvenes with final recommendations
- Summer School Subcommittee - TBD

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm