

ELLIS SCHOOL & THE FUTURE COMMITTEE

January 22, 2015 Meeting

6pm, SAU 83

MINUTES

The meeting commenced at 6:05pm in the SAU 83 Conference room. The following people were in attendance: Larry Dobson, Shannon Bryant, Leah Kennedy, and Betsey Cox. Absent were Christine Janvrin and Sharon Polleck due to family illness.

Introductions - Everyone introduced themselves and talked a little about why they were interested in the committee.

Scope & Purpose of the Committee – Betsey went over the reasons that the strategic planning committee made this committee a part of the plan. The committee was to discuss the “future of learning” and in particular, “the future of learning at the Ellis School.” The committee is not here to discuss curriculum, personnel, etc. but to talk to the question of “Are we offering the best opportunity for learning at the Ellis School and if not, how might we do better?”

The committee will meet until June of 2016 and report their findings to the School Board at that time. The committee may finish earlier, but it must wrap up its work by then.

Structure of the Meetings – The Committee set its meeting norms. These will be displayed at the bottom of each agenda.

- Attend all meetings
- Start/end on time
- No school/no meeting
- All voices heard
- One person speaks at a time
- Do your homework
- Stick to the agenda
- Be respectful

Schedule – The Committee set the following 17 ***Thursdays*** for meetings. These can be changed by the committee at any time. Please check your availability to meet on these dates and come to the February meeting with conflicts if you have any. Meetings will be from **6-7:30pm**.

2/12/15	8/13/15	2/11/16
3/12/15	9/10/15	3/10/16
4/9/15	10/8/15	4/14/16
5/14/15	11/12/15	5/12/16
6/14/15	12/10/15	6/9/16
7/9/15	1/14/16	

First Assignments – For the next meeting everyone is to research the following topics generated by the committee. When you find an article/study/webpage, it is the job of the committee member to read it in its entirety to determine if it is useful for our purpose. If the piece is found useful, it’s URL or document is to be forward to Betsey to organize and distribute to the committee.

Please read everything sent and be ready to discuss it at the next meeting.

Topics for research are:

1. How to level a school in the most effective way for learning? By age? By ability? Etc.
2. How should learning be reported to parents?
3. What is the best, most effective type of parent involvement? What does it look like?
4. How should the school calendar year be structured for students to learn and not lose?
5. Does separating the genders make a difference in learning? If so, at what age is it most effective?
6. What kind of grouping works most effectively for students to learn most efficiently?

Adjourn – The committee adjourn promptly at 7pm.