

## **DALLIN 2014-2015 SCHOOL COUNCIL**

**October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Agenda, 7:30am**

**Attendance:** Gil Irizarry, Christina Hughes, Shirley Caniff, Patrick Burke, Mike Connell, Thad Dingman, Jessica Truslow, Kate Loosian

### **Agenda:**

1. Welcome – Table Wrap Around
2. Norms of Collaboration
3. Quick Review of School Council
4. Select Co-chair
5. Meeting Outcomes
  - Review and discuss Dallin School Improvement Plan 2014-2015
  - Team interests for Dallin
6. Yearly meeting schedule
7. Article - **'Even Geniuses Work Hard'** - Carol S. Dweck

### ***School Council Overview***

#### **What is a school council?**

A school council is a representative, school building-based committee composed of the principal, parents, teachers, community members and, at the secondary level, students, required to be established by each school pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 71, Section 59C.

#### **How many members should the council contain?**

The law leaves it up to each principal, "pursuant to a representative process approved by the superintendent and school committee," to define the size and composition of the council. It does, however, make three stipulations about membership.

Parents "shall have parity with professional personnel on the school councils." Regardless of the size of the council, the number of parent representatives must be equal to the number of teachers who serve on the council plus the principal.

"Not more than fifty percent of the council shall be non-school members." "Non-school members" are defined as members who are "other than parents, teachers, students and staff at the school."

The membership of school councils "should be broadly representative of the racial and ethnic diversity of the school building and community."

## **What are the main areas of responsibility for school councils?**

The law outlines four major areas of responsibility for councils. School councils are to assist principals in:

1. Adopting educational goals for the school that are consistent with local educational policies and statewide student performance standards
2. Identifying the educational needs of students attending the school
3. Reviewing the annual school building budget
4. Formulating a school improvement plan

More info: <http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/advisory/schoolcouncils/appx.html>

### **Notes:**

Co-chair: Mike Connell

### **Team Interests:**

*Erin:* Make the Dallin school successful for all students and defining what success looks like.

*Mike:* Small things to make big differences- technology to differentiate, learning science

*Kate:* Refining/redefining a child's day through a well articulated value system (play)

*Gil:* Mechanics of the school day (lunch), STEM for lack of a better term and smart ed tech

*Shirley:* Concerned with the increase in population; space and size

*Jessica:* Small space and large numbers, class size; technology and smart usage; rigor and the math program - differentiation, inquiry-based learning

*Patrick:* Reciprocate the embrace given from the Dallin community, opportunity to look at the big picture

*Christina:* Math is a particular area of interest. Looking to improve math attitudes, which is currently a concern.

*Thad:* Culture, Teams - big picture to concrete, Dispersed Leadership/service leadership, Technology, Aesthetics, Partnerships, Goals, Teacher Voice