

System Charter Leadership Team
2.18.09

Present:

Allison Taylor
Anthony Whatley
Bruce Roaden
Eve Wyatt
Gloria Lee
Graneze Scott
Greg Wiseman
Laconia Massaquoi
Lauri Mckain-Fernández
Mary Mack
Peg Bumgardner
Thomas Van Soelen

6:30 pm

The SCLT spent the evening discussing election practices for the 0910 school year. An idea emerged about asking one-year SLT members to continue for another year, thus not needing an election for the 0910 school year. After many pros and cons of such a move, the SCLT voted to reject that proposal. In large part, the SCLT wants to show the community the transparency of elections and improve the process from Fall 2008.

These recommendations will be made to the Board of Education at the March 2008 meeting:

1. Move elections to the fall. After weighing the benefits and challenges of spring and fall elections, the SCLT feels that the community would benefit most from fall elections of parent SLT members. Fall elections will allow families to vote in the school in which their child attends.
2. Candidacy announcements. The change to a fall election necessitates a change to the candidacy process. Candidates will need to announce their candidacy by presenting their Statement of Intent to the school by the first Friday of the first school week, 4 pm.
3. Two-year terms. Although the charter alludes to one- and two-year terms for "initial terms," more clarity is needed on this issue. The SCLT recommends that all terms from this point forward proceed as two-year terms. This will allow the cycling of members on and off the SLTs. The only exception to this situation may emerge at schools in which all parents chose two-year terms. At some point, SLTs will need to change a position to one-time 3-year term in order to assure that all parents do not cycle off at the same time.
4. Shared method between teacher elections and parent elections. In response to feedback from Debbie Pepin, charter consultant, teacher elections need to be more systemic. In this vein, the SCLT recommends that whatever method is decided for parent elections also be used by schools to elect teachers. The

- SCLT will meet again in late April to examine election methods. Several SLTs have examined this issue and will bring recommendations to the group.
5. Change in term dates. Current terms run from July 1 – June 30. The SCLT recommends extending this year’s terms to September 30 and from this point onward, claiming terms as October 1 – September 30.
 6. Shared SLT meeting. The previous recommendation is tied to this request. The SCLT recommends crafting a requirement of candidates to attend the final SLT meeting of the previous year’s SLT. This meeting would take place in August or September and would be focused on an action item related to the School Improvement Plan.