



BLT Proposed Agenda

October 2, 2015

8:00-9:00

8:00 Introductions/ Schedule for note-taking

8:10 BLT

- ✓ Purpose
- ✓ Norms

8:20 Homework Policy and other research

8:40 PTSA presentation:

- ✓ Mission and Vision
- ✓ Homework
- ✓ Research
- ✓ SBAC -lightly touch on
- ✓ What else to include

B. Purpose of the Building Leadership Team.

The primary functions of the JSIS-BLT are to promote and facilitate the collaborative decision making process which affects academic achievement. All decisions will be made in accordance with the Decision Making Matrix. The JSIS-BLT serves as one of the governing bodies of JSIS, with responsibilities for leadership, advocacy, financial stewardship, and strategic planning to assure the highest standards of educational excellence and an inclusive, supportive school community.

II. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The JSIS-BLT shall participate in the following aspects of school governance:

- To function as a forum for discussion and resolution of issues
- To work toward consensus building in the school community
- To set goals and implement plans for JSIS that provide for family, staff, community and student involvement in appropriate aspects of school functioning
- To communicate to the JSIS staff and parents suggestions and/or policy regarding the philosophy and focus of the instructional program at JSIS, allowing the staff to plan final implementation steps

- To consider suggestions and concerns of the staff and parents in order to aid and advance the goals of JSIS
- To oversee the facilitation and development of the JSIS school budget in conjunction with staff. Budget will require both a staff and BLT will vote for final approval
- To coordinate advocacy for the interest of JSIS with the District and larger community
- To work cooperatively with the PTSA in furthering the goals and mission statement of JSIS

In considering matters brought before the JSIS-BLT, the members shall have as their primary focus the best interests of the JSIS students. District policies, collective bargaining and other agreements to which JSIS or the District may be a party will be recognized and observed when formulating plans for JSIS.

Proposed Norms (borrowed from High School online)

- Support a positive, collaborative team atmosphere
- Maintain focus on what is best for students
- Use open, constructive communication
- Ensure all voices are respectfully heard
- Use active listening
- Honor confidentiality

D. Decision Making

1. Consensus Decision Making. The JSIS-BLT will make decisions through a process of open dialogue in which issues are presented, defined, discussed and resolved with the goal of reaching consensus. The Chair is responsible for moving the group towards, and listening for, consensus. While everyone present at a meeting is eligible to participate in the discussion, only those named as voting members of the JSIS-BLT will be entitled to vote when a vote is taken. Each member of the JSIS-BLT will have one vote. A member who has given advance notice that she/he will not be able to attend a meeting may vote by proxy through another member in attendance at the meeting.

A decision of the JSIS-BLT by consensus will be declared when:

- All members have had a free opportunity to contribute to or to clarify the issue in question
- All members have had the opportunity to express their feelings on the issue in question AND

- All members agree to take responsibility for the implementation of the decision OR
- Those members who disagree with the decision have indicated that they are willing to abide by the decision for a prescribed trial period.

2. Procedure. Any member of the JSIS-BLT may ask for a call on the strength of the consensus on the proposal in question. At that time, the Chair shall ask the members to indicate their strength of agreement with the proposal. JSIS-BLT members who are firmly committed to the proposal shall so indicate, as will members who are firmly opposed; members who are neither firmly committed nor opposed indicate so by abstaining. Any member indicating opposition shall be encouraged to clarify his/her objection to the proposal and offer an alternative. The Chair shall determine agreement and so announce if the members are in agreement with the issue in question. A quorum of two-thirds of the voting JSIS-BLT members must be present in order for a decision to be made on any action item brought before the JSIS-BLT.

3. Conflict Resolution. If consensus cannot be reached on an issue, the JSIS-BLT shall by simple majority choose one or more of the following alternatives:

- Continue discussion until consensus is reached
- Forward the issue to an ad hoc subcommittee representing all expressed points of view
- Vote on the issue, with 9 out of 11 JSIS-BLT members voting in favor required for passage

2. Restrictions. No decision made by the JSIS-BLT will be in violation of applicable laws and regulations, School District policy, collective bargaining or other legally binding agreements, or these bylaws. In the event that a decision might be in violation of the above, the Principal will table the decision and refer it to an ad hoc subcommittee for review and comment.

JSIS Mission

This summer, JSIS instructional staff did a lot of thinking about our focus and commitment to student learning. We will be working with BLT on the exact wording for this mission statement but our commitment is clear:

At JSIS, we are committed to our focus on **STUDENT LEARNING** that will lead to **active global citizenship**:

- academic rigor
- social emotional aptitude
- cultural competency
- proficiency in an immersion language
- awareness of global issues and the passion to act
- cultivating a **JOY** of learning

JSIS Vision

We will achieve the above mission by remaining **conscious of our impact** on students. To that end we are committed to focusing on **equity** and placing **research-based instructional practices** that enhance student learning at the forefront of all we do.

Examples:

- Promoting student-self efficacy
- Providing structures and opportunities for teacher collaboration and teacher leadership
- Providing systematic supports for struggling learners
- Examining all programs, interventions and events with an equity lens

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