



Local School Council Minutes
 October 16, 2019
 2019-2020

I. Welcome and Call to Order at 5:48pm

John Falck	Parent Rep, Chairperson	Present
Rachael Russ	Parent Rep	Absent
Leigh Ann Dreves	Parent Rep, Secretary	Present
Rosalynn Walker	Parent Rep	Present
Esteven Gonzalez	Parent Rep, Vice Chairperson	Present
Bridget Johnson	Parent Rep	Present
Jason Emeott	Community Rep	Arrived at 6:00pm
Steven McClellan	Community Rep	Present
Chris Graves	Principal	Present
Katie LeMoine	Teacher Rep	Present
TBD	Teacher Rep	N/A
TBD	Non-Teaching Staff Rep	N/A

Also in attendance: Treyvon Green, Sam Simmerman, Stephanie Lichtman, Leigh Caviel-Grimes, Ms. Waller, Ms. Baggot, Ms. Peretz, Ms. Kist, Ms. Parrilli, Ms. Broecker, Ms. Zaranko, Ms. Torro, Ms. Flisk, Emily Nash, and Tom Brennan

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. A few grammatical corrections were made to the September draft minutes and an attendance correction (Ms. Dreves was not present). Mr. Falck made a motion to approve the September 11, 2019 meeting minutes with the above edits. Ms LeMoine seconded. Eight voted in favor; one objection and no abstentions.

III. Principal Report

A review of the Principal Report distributed to LSC members in advance of the meeting.

- a. School Updates and Celebrations
 - i. Orange Ruler raised approximately \$32k for the school
- b. CIWP School Priority #1 Progress
 - i. Discipline and social emotional learning are a school-wide priority
- c. Working on 7th and 8th grade discipline. Lunches with 7th and 8th grade teachers. Classroom lessons encourage students to share concerns about bad behavior.
- d. MTSS - Ms. Jones in a ½ time MTSS role which provides instruction for students who need additional help and those who are exceeding.
- e. Healthy CPS Status. LaSalle is one of only 16 CPS schools to receive 100% in all goal areas
- f. Reviewed the CIWP Competencies A-E
 - i. Hired first classroom assistant today with an additional hire very soon
 - ii. Mr. Graves is attending the International bullying conference

IV. Open Forum

- a. Sam Simmerman (school neighbor)
 - i. Mr. Simmerman mentioned that he was happy to see that the boulders on the playground near the field had been relocated as those could have caused injury.
 - ii. Mr. Simmerman raised concerns about children running outside the school fences on 10/8/19 and is worried about child abduction risk. It was mentioned and confirmed that this was the long distance classic, which had students running on the sidewalk with teachers and volunteers watching the kids during the event. Ms. Walker mentioned the location of some supervising individuals and that perhaps more could have been added.
 - iii. Mr. Simmerman asked about his prior request to reduce the angle of the exterior lights on Eugene. Mr. Graves raised this with the engineer for CPS and will continue to look at the options for angling the lights.
- b. A LaSalle parent asked how the LSC meeting agenda is provided ahead of time. It was stated that the minutes and agenda are posted next to the front door of the school as well as on the LSC tab on the school website. Agendas should be physically posted 48 hours before the meeting. The (missing) August meeting minutes will be added to the website. The September minutes that were just approved will be posted on the website and outside the school.
- c. The State of the School address will be rescheduled from October to November as CPS has not yet released official school performance info from the last school year.
- d. Ms. Waller talked about how teachers were previously paid the hourly rate of their instructional pay for committee meetings that occurred before and after school. [A motion for this meeting is to approve \$20k to pay for teacher attendance at these meetings, or to spend that money on teacher training.] When the \$20K runs out, what will happen to fund these committee meetings and will there be other funds to pay for teacher overtime? Test Scores and SQRP work is being done before work to help provide the proper instruction to our students. It's not just one day a week the teachers are here, there are many committee meetings. Ms. Waller thinks that the teachers should be respected and paid money for their time doing this work. There is a worry that teachers will stop attending these committee meetings if they are not paid for their time, which could impact the instruction provided to the children at LaSalle. Ms. Lemoine pointed out that the union guidelines say that if work happens outside of the traditional hours teachers should be paid their hourly instructional rate. These are optional committees and all of the CIWP updates are from the work that these committees have been doing without compensation, although in some past years they have been compensated to attend these meetings.
- e. Right at School representative introduced himself - Treyvon Green. His focus is to create a more structured recess program. He mentioned that Lauren, who manages the After School program, is also working to provide more structure and improvements for the program. Mr. Green consistently gets feedback from Mr. Graves and Ms. Jenkins to ensure that things are going well.
- f. Tom Brennan had two children who graduated from LaSalle in 2012 and 2013. He wanted to mention how well prepared his children were after leaving LaSalle. He has some great memories of LaSalle and is happy to stop back and to see old friends.

- g. Ms. Parrilli said that for the principal evaluation process last year she did not know that she was supposed to fill out the survey sent to teachers asking for principal performance feedback because she expected to be invited to have an interview to discuss her opinions. [which happened in prior years] She wants to know how the feedback for the principal evaluation will be completed this year, and that if there is only going to be a survey to make sure that is clear this time that teachers should answer the survey sent to them.

V. Committee Reports

- a. LSC Chair and Secretary Report
 - i. Status of Open Teacher and Non-Teacher positions.
 - 1. Election was held and sanctioned by the school, and now needs to be approved by the CPS Board, probably in November. It's a delayed process. Ms. Flisk will be the new teacher LSC representative and Mr. Lubin will be the non-teacher LSC representative.
- b. Building/Traffic/Safety Committee
 - i. A safety meeting was held with Mr. Graves, Ms. Walker and a few other parents. There are concerns with playground supervision after 4:15pm. Hoping to talk with the Beat cop to ask for their presence at the playground starting at 4:15pm
 - ii. The new playground looks great and kids love it. There was a small sinkhole in the playground and within an hour of noticing it, it was reported to the builders. They had not yet done flood testing of the field, which was scheduled for the following week. No other sinkholes were found during that testing. The sinkhole was fixed; it has a slight bump now but that should settle to flat over time.
 - iii. Need to work on student drop-off lanes in the morning. The outer lane is for those not dropping off students. Mr. Graves can remind parents of this in his newsletter.
 - iv. Watering plants - there was an issue with sprinklers. Ms. Lessing and the Green Team will ensure that the plants are watered properly.
 - v. Security cameras on the exterior are up and if anyone on the LSC wants to see the features of the new technology they can set up a time with Mr. Graves.
 - vi. Long Distance Classic - there were two students who had asthma issues after the race. It's recommended that the Nurse and/or teachers remind parents that students with asthma should bring their inhaler on days with this type of activity.
 - vii. Previously identified problems with chipped paint on some benches and strands coming out of the turf are on the maintenance request list.
- c. Budget & Finance Committee
 - i. Mr. Falck summarized discussions held with the FOL and Mr. Graves about remaining playground donations. There is about \$30k remaining in a school account that was donated towards the playground project. Money held by the school can only be spent on CPS-approved vendors, which are not helpful for small purchases, e.g., for a small cement pour to support more benches. This money cannot be transferred to the FOL (which can use any vendor), but it was agreed to have the school use that playground money to purchase one or two things the FOL otherwise would have purchased for the school, which effectively would swap that amount between the FOL and school, with the same amount of

money going towards things that would have been purchased anyway. A likely target is to have the school purchase \$30k in chromebooks that the FOL would have purchased for the school (using Orange Ruler money). The FOL then would designate that same amount as 'Playground Funds' in its internal accounts, effectively converting the money. There is no vote to be made on this at the moment, but John wanted to explain the plan in advance so anyone could ask questions and become comfortable with the offset spending idea.

- ii. Based on agreement of this idea, it is likely that at the next LSC meeting there will be a proposal to purchase approximately \$30k in chromebooks. (Note, this coincidentally is about the amount of money raised by the school in this year's Orange Ruler fundraiser, which was designated to go towards school technology.)
- d. CIWP Updates
 - i. In year 2 of the two-year CIWP cycle. Preparing a committee and work is being led by the instructional leadership team
- e. Principal Evaluation Committee
 - i. Waiting for final elements to be provided by CPS (mostly based on school test score growth last year) to finalize last year's evaluation. Not sure if there will be a change to the CPS deadline cycle which is around November 1, since we cannot do anything without the information which has not yet been released.
- f. PPLC - Leadership Committee (Teacher Leadership team elected by the teachers)
 - i. Ms. Lemoine wanted to clarify that teachers aren't asking for payment for all of the hours that they work overtime, just for the one hour they work on mornings for certain committee work.
- g. Technology Committee
 - i. More chromebooks could be ordered soon if the proposal discussed by FOL and LaSalle leadership moves forward. There was a question about replacing iPads. Chromebooks are the immediate priority b/c they are used for testing, and iPads are more expensive. It was mentioned that older iPads don't work with the NWEA testing platform.
- h. Community Relations
 - i. The new playground is going over very well with the neighborhood and is heavily used on evenings and weekends by many families.
 - ii. A question about the safety of the spinning mechanism on the playground was raised. Everything is up to code and this was the safest spinner that was seen when planning the playground. The concern is when kids spin their limbs could accidentally hit other people. Some teachers are not allowing kids to play on this particular piece of the playground when they are outside.

VI. FOL Update

- a. Mr. Falck mentioned that the FOL is working on internal committees and fundraising plans
- b. The Orange Ruler fundraiser was a big success and is very popular, especially with younger students.

VII. Old Business

- a. Training update (postponed from the September LSC meeting)
 - i. Funds allocated were \$5000 at prior LSC meeting

- ii. Ms. Yasak attended Orton Gillingham multi-sensory literacy training and was very excited about what she learned
- iii. Ms. Baggot and Ms. Solis - attending Wilson multi-sensory literacy training - hoping to get the full year level one training. Training by Dan Schuh. Joe Angel attended this training over the summer. Ms. Boumenot plans to attend soon.
- iv. Mr. Gromaski and Ms. Baggot were awarded a grant from the Brent Sopel Foundation, to receive the full Level 1 Wilson certification (\$8,000 cost, saved).
- v. After Ms. Boumenot is trained LaSalle will have six teachers trained to use multi-sensory literacy techniques,
- vi. Marzano's training for standard based instruction was attended by Ms. LeMoine and Ms. Dunleavy

VIII. Issues for Discussion or Vote

a. Motion to update LSC by-laws to include a description of the Sergeant at Arms role: "Sergeant at Arms. For the 2019-2020 school year, and possibly to be appointed in future years, the LSC created the position of Sergeant at Arms. The Sergeant at Arms is responsible for working with the Chair to help ensure efficient running of LSC meetings to best support the needs of the school. The role includes helping participants follow the agenda, keeping comments and questions appropriate to each topic, and helping to summarize and guide discussions to make sure multiple views are heard and expressed succinctly. In particular, for meetings many guests, the Sergeant at Arms will organize and coordinate guests who wish to speak, including managing time limits."

A motion was made by Mr. Falck to approve this amendment to the bylaws, seconded by Ms. LeMoine. Eight individuals voted in favor with one objection and no abstentions. Mr. Emeott will hold in the position of Sergeant at Arms for this year as previously approved.

- b. Allocation of teacher training funds
 - i. LaSalle was given \$50K for professional development and planning purposes. \$9K was allocated in the September 2019 meeting.
 - ii. Motion to allocate the remaining \$41K:
 - 1. \$20K be allocated to extended-day pay for teachers
 - 2. \$15K in software licenses
 - 3. \$6K in consultants and training

Discussion: Ms. LeMoine commented that teachers can pursue Donors Choose money for items #2 & #3, but that cannot be done for #1. The \$20K will be divided evenly amongst all teachers who participate in the different committees / meetings. Not all teachers participate. It was estimated that this is roughly \$300 per teacher after taxes.

A motion was made by Mr. Falck to allocate the \$41K as requested above by Mr. Graves. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gonzalez. All voted in favor with no abstentions.

- c. Transfer of \$3,000 from budget line 115-57940-888888-000575 (general student based budgeting) to bucket pointer line 115-51320-290001-000575 to pay for subs covering for teachers who are in France and Yellowstone because more funds are needed.
- d. Transfer of \$588.30 from budget line 115-57940-888888-000575 (general student based budgeting) to 115-51330-290001-000575 to pay for sub bucket benefis
- e. Transfer of \$44,077.85 from 115-57940-119035 (general student based budgeting) to 115-51320-290001-575 (position pointer line) to pay for classroom assistants.

- f. Transfer of \$200.42 from 115-57940-888888-000575 (general student based budgeting) to 115-55005-119035-000575 for extra chairs for class 102.

A motion was made by Mr. Falck to approve items VII. items c.-f. with a second from Esteven Gonzalez. All voted in favor with no objections and no abstentions.

IX. New Business

- a. Ms. Walker made reference to page 73 of the LSC Resource Guide that agenda items must be approved by the LSC, and that items to be voted on need to be listed on the agenda at least 48 hours before the meeting.
Discussed that agenda items should not be at the sole discretion of the Chairperson, and that it should be decided by LSC vote if we want to discuss or vote on particular issues. Mr. Falck agreed that going forward he can list all requested topics on the agenda, and that at each meeting the LSC can vote if we want to cover each topic or not.
- b. Ms. Walker made reference to page 79 of the LSC Resource Guide which describes how a motion should be made, how a vote should be taken, and how this information should be recorded. She said that we should make a motion before we discuss the topic we are going to vote on. It was stated that time for discussion is offered for each motion at our meetings, and that the discussion sometimes occurs before the motion to vote and sometimes after. Mr. Emeott offered that as the Sergeant at Arms he could help support the process of making a motion and guiding discussion.
- c. Ms. Walker made a request that the LSC review the LSC Resource Guide and change any meeting practices that don't adhere to those described. As an alternative it was suggested that if someone wanted to identify specific procedures they would like to review, that it might be more efficient to send those in writing in advance of a meeting, and a vote would be taken on what changes to consider or to make.
- d. There was much discussion regarding the amount of the time spent during recent LSC meetings discussing the meeting process, which is time several members felt could be better spent on issues that drive school improvement.

X. Adjournment at 7:46pm