



**Local School Council Minutes
December 11, 2019**

I. Welcome and Call to Order at 5:51pm

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	Absent
Bridget Johnson	Parent Rep	Absent
Jason Emeott	Community Rep	Arrived at 6:01pm
Steven McClellan	Community Rep	Present
Chris Graves	Principal	Present
Katie LeMoine	Teacher Rep	Absent
Melissa Flisk	Teacher Rep	Present
Reed Rubin	Non-Teaching Staff Rep	Present

Also in attendance: Ms. Jenkins, Ms. Parilli, and Sheila O'Donnell

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. Mr. Falck made a motion to approve the November 20, 2019 LSC meeting minutes, Mr. McClellan seconded. All in favor and no objections.

III. Principal Report

- a. School Updates
 - i. It's been an emotionally tough time for some families in our community, and other families have been amazingly supportive of them
 - ii. Assembly yesterday at the school was called "We All Live Here"
 - iii. Science Fair was today for 6th and 8th grade students

Review of Principal Performance Topics

- b. Competency A, Champions teacher and staff excellence through continuous improvement to develop and achieve high expectations for all students,
 - i. 1:1 goal setting meetings are nearly complete
 - ii. Teacher classroom REACH observations have begun, class visits continue
 - iii. "On Track" is a new metric in the SQRP rating system for schools, and it is being analyzed by staff
- c. Competency B, Creates powerful learning systems that guarantee learning for all students,
 - i. The teacher Instructional Leadership Team choose area of focus
 - ii. Process for review of teacher unit plans
 - iii. Math areas of need were identified (see later slide)
- d. Competency C, Builds a culture focused on college and career readiness,
 - i. 5 staff members attended the Brian Mendler conference which focused on behavior strategies
 - ii. SECAs (class assistants) are leading training to share the importance of their role
- e. Competency D, Empowers and motivates family and the community to become engaged,

- i. Books and Blankets donation drive this week
 - ii. Winter Assemblies are next week
 - iii. Healthy CPS planning process has restarted to repeat honors from last year
 - iv. Restorative Practice coach led training with all staff
- f. Competency E, Relentlessly pursues self-disciplined thinking and action,
 - i. Staff bonding and trust building has been a focus - strong teams are more effective
 - ii. Mr. Graves has finished his Phd course work
- g. Math Curriculum and Supports
 - i. Improving math instruction is a priority for the school. Math areas of need were identified in surveys and meetings with teachers
 - 1. ST Math, an online math program, is being purchased for some primary classrooms
 - 2. Math interventions are being piloted
 - ii. All teachers set Beginning and Middle of Year goals for students in Math (and Reading)
 - iii. CPS Network math support specialist Carlos Borges is helping provide direct support and leadership for our math instruction

Discussion:

- Ms. Walker asked about attendance on the strike days - stating that if there is a 70% student attendance it will be hard to be impactful. Is there consideration to urge parents to attend during these strike days. A: yes, that message will be sent. Teachers are preparing instruction plans for the two make-up days, although the focus may depend on attendance levels. Teachers may not start new material, but may use those days to review prior or similar content.
- Q: Will student absences on the Jan 2nd and 3rd make-up days impact the school's attendance rating, which is part of the SQRP score? A: it is possible that CPS will not count absences on these days, but that has not been decided or communicated.
- Q: What was the teacher attendance for the day before Thanksgiving? A: It was lower than normal. Mr. Graves and Ms. Jenkins did go into classrooms to check instruction was happening.
- Rumor is that some people are saying they may not send their child to school on January 2nd and 3rd if classes are mostly substitute teachers. A: Except for unexpected sickness, Mr. Graves knows which teachers will not be at school on Jan 2nd and 3rd, and they have instruction plans for those days.
- ST Math - Q: how was it determined which primary classes would get access to this system? A: based on which teachers were interested in purchasing the pilot.

IV. Committee Reports

- a. LSC Chair and Secretary Report
 - i. Welcome two new LSC members (Ms. Flisk & Mr. Rubin) who were approved at the CPS school board meeting today
- b. Building/Traffic/Safety Committee
 - i. Ms. Walker still needs to take an opportunity to review the security cameras
 - ii. Would like to have a binder of prior LSC meeting minute notes in the office. John said he would review his records for past year's minutes, although some may be missing.
- c. Budget & Finance Committee - no update
- d. CIWP Updates
 - i. Just announced two upcoming required trainings from the network. The changes aren't yet known, but should come in within the next 30 days.
- e. Principal Evaluation Committee
 - i. Review of last year's final evaluation components in a closed session later today

- f. PPLC - Leadership Committee (Teacher Leadership team elected by the teachers)
 - i. no update
 - g. Technology Committee
 - i. Chromebook purchase status - budget transfer will lead to 130 new chromebooks but it is taking a bit longer than expected to make the purchase through CPS. It would be nice to have them here before the next NWEA testing, which is the 3rd week after the holiday break, although they are not required since we have other chromebooks that can be used. Mr. Graves will see if he can speed the purchase approval process.
- Mr. Falck gave an overview of technology and technology support at the school
- ii. Devices. We were one of the earlier school to buy electronic devices and to achieve a ratio of one device per student. It was complicated to get hundreds of devices all set up the same way. Having a few standard types of devices makes it easier to learn how to use them and to support them, which is one reason we tend to make large technology purchases rather than buying a few devices at a time.
 - iii. Infrastructure. After we had a couple hundred devices we found the school did not have the WiFi or network bandwidth to support them. We have had a couple infrastructure upgrades since then, adding more and newer WiFi hotspots and increasing the network connection to CPS. We may need more upgrades in the future, especially if students start to do more video work.
 - iv. Training. Eric Lannert, a parent who helped lead technology for the school for several years, worked with teachers on how to best use technology in the classroom to guide instruction. This is an area that may need more focus in the future.
 - v. Repairs and Maintenance. For a few years repair and maintenance was done by parent volunteers. This included replacing keyboards and manually updating software. After we reached over 500 devices doing all this with volunteer support was not feasible, which is when we started to pay a vendor to help with maintenance and repairs.
 - vi. Purchases. The current purchase strategy is to try to make a device purchase annually so we can have a predictable expense flow. If the lifespan of the devices averages 3-6 years, that still it is a substantial amount of money each year. Purchasing a chromebook costs on average \$300, so buying 100 to 150 each year is \$30,000 to \$45,000 just in purchase costs.
 - vii. Website. Originally the school website was a place to passively post information about the school. Now is being used as a wider communication tool, both to the outside community and for internal communication between students/teachers and teachers/families. We need to have a web platform that can support all of that - it is not clear if the current one can do what we need. To manage a higher load of content updates we probably will shift to a more distributed ownership of managing different sections of the website, e.g., the FOL managing content of the FOL section, the school administrators handling their information, etc.. This will require more training, support and coordination so that we can have multiple groups use the site for multiple audiences while maintaining a common overall message for the school, as well as a common look and feel.
 - viii. John noted Esteven's leadership and many accomplishments with the school's technology in all of these areas over the past several years, and how his contributions have greatly benefited the entire school.
- h. Community Relations

- i. Mr. Graves will check what time the playground lights are turned off in the evening. It does not seem the angle of the lights can be changed without limiting what can be seen by the security cameras.
- ii. The divot that was fixed on the new field has reappeared. It will be addressed in the Spring. There may be other sinkholes that appear during winter.

V. Right at School

- a. Introduced DeShawn Conley from Right at School. There have been some personnel changes. Recess seems to have a better atmosphere.

VI. FOL Update

- a. \$4,000 raised from the coffee fundraiser. They learned that they need more lead time to publicize this event. Discussion about expanding the coffee theme to try to get a "Coffee with a famous Chicagoian"
- b. Will remind parents of the school pledge drive before the end of the year. so people can donate money this (tax) year. The FOL will be more active in pushing it during 2020.
- c. Restaurant Nights will be upcoming, where on a certain night a restaurant donates to LaSalle an amount from their sales to people who come in and say they are supporting the school.

VII. Open Discussion

- a. No topics raised

VIII. Old Business

- a. No topics covered

IX. New Business

- a. Rental Parking with Geja's Restaurant - they need an overflow valet parking on some high peak days and weekends. There wasn't enough time to put this on the agenda, but we can talk about this in the near future. CPS can start reviewing the contract. We hope to review this as an LSC in January 2020.

X. Issues for Discussion or Vote

- a. Budget transfer from 29161-115-52140--111008-000575 to 29161-115-51320-290001-000575 for \$1,000.00 for an Off Duty Police Officer.
 - i. We can set a start date - perhaps February 1, from 3:30pm to 4:30
 - ii. This person would be off-duty like Officer Williams. Not sure if they can issue tickets, but they could put warning stickers on illegally parked cars.
 - iii. This person might be able to help with traffic near Sedgwick and Eugenie
- b. Budget transfer from 29161-115-52140-111008-000575 to 29161-115-51320-290001-000575 for \$1,000.00 to open a bucket for teachers/IEP work.
 - i. these funds were already set aside but were in the wrong bucket
- c. Approve usage of gym for Live to Support outside vendor (same as prior years).
 - i. \$19,000 income for gym rental to them. This the group that also provides free CPR training
- d. Possible approval of gym usage for a Saturday one-time camp.
 - i. High-Five Sports would like to rent the gym for a one-time Saturday. They offered to pay \$75 per hour, but \$30 of that needs to be paid out to a custodian so the school would only be getting \$40 per hour. The number of hours wasn't indicated by High-Five.
 - 1. Not enough information for a motion on the High Five Sports, and does not seem to be worth much effort for a single low-paying rental event.

Mr. Falck motioned to approve items X. a-c, Ms. Walker seconded. All in favor and no objections. No motion or vote for item d.

XI. Open Forum

- a. Last month's presentation of school NWEA results by year and by grade was done well, but it would be nice to have a breakdown of performance by different sub-groups that have disproportionately low test scores per grade, like was available last year.

XII. Adjournment of Open Session at 7:07pm

XIII. Closed Session for Principal Evaluation - began at 7:11pm

Discussion and agreement about a final principal evaluation rating for Mr. Graves. This incorporates the evaluation score recently provided by CPS based on school academic growth in 2018-19 school year.

Discussion and agreement about school academic priorities for this current school year.

XIV. Adjournment of the Closed Session at 8:00pm

XV. Open Comments opened at 8:01pm

XVI. Adjournment at 8:02pm