

**Local School Council Minutes | LaSalle Language Academy
Organizational Meeting, Monday July 13, 2020
2020-2021 | COVID-extended term**

WELCOME & CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER 6:44PM

SCHEDULED TIME 6:30PM / after the close of the 5:30PM special meeting to appoint replacement parent reps
DATE: July 13, 2020 PLACE: Zoom Meeting

Jason Emeott	Community Rep	Present
John Falck	Parent Rep	Present
Melissa Flisk	Teacher Rep	Present
Chris Graves	Principal	Present
Erica Harris	Parent Rep	Present
Bridget Johnson	Parent Rep	Present
Katie LeMoine	Teacher Rep	Present
Reed Lubin	Non-Teaching Staff Rep	Absent
Steven McClellan	Community Rep	Present
Kat O'Brien	Parent Rep	Present
Rachael Russ	Parent Rep	Present
Rosalynn Walker	Parent Rep	Present

Additional attendance on the Zoom call included: Ginger Hancock, Ian Smithdahl, Kelly Brenner, Michael Grant, Sabrina Herrell, Erin Waser, Eric Roth, Allie Levinsky, Katrina Tolliver, Elaine Lee, Matthew Luskin, Tamika Spaulding

Approve Prior Minutes May / June 2019

Motion to approve the May/June minutes. All in favor, no objections.

Approve Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda for this meeting. All in favor, no objections.

- Motion to approve requested agenda topic to create a Diversity / Equity committee. The committee would be different from the school's Equity Task Force because it would gather specific stats, comprised of LSC members and parents doing that research. All in favor, no objections.

Selection of Temporary Chairperson (parent) and Temporary Secretary (any) – until permanent selected

- Motion to nominate John Falck Temp Chair, seconded. All in favor, no objections
- Motion to nominate Kat O'Brien Temp Secretary, seconded. All in favor, no objections

Principal Report (possible update topic)

- LLA is a CPS Meal Distribution Site over summer
- For the summer we have a second Safety Officer, from Bell Elementary
 - ... and we have a new, second Security Officer from Bell Elem.
- Summer Online Tutoring is underway
 - LLA tutoring is open to any interested families.
 - Tutoring offered at reduced or free to families in need.
 - This is in addition to the online summer school provided for no-charge from CPS for students who received incompletes during Remote Learning.
- Equity Task Force's role is to engage in discussions about issues of equity, including race, gender, family income, ethnicity and religion at the school. They will provide training, opportunities for engagement, and resources for LaSalle staff and family to deepen our understanding of these issues with the goal of improving measurable outcomes at LaSalle. They have been planning a series of Town Hall gatherings and Focus Groups. They're also planning to work with a community organization this fall and spring. The primary equity topic of focus for this year will be racial equity, while considering the overlap and intersection with other topics of equity.
- Summary shared via screen
 - Town Hall #1 upcoming, that's where you'll hear about the work that we are doing.
 - Town Hall #2, opportunity for families to share out
- Classes in Fall – updates forthcoming from CPS re possible remote, hybrid, and/or in-person learning

PUBLIC COMMENT

Summary of Public Comment:

- Kelly Brenner, Allie Levinsky, Sabrina Herrell, Eric Roth, Katrina Tolliver, Elaine Lee each spoke or commented in support of creating an Equity committee and/or in support of the Equity Task Force
- Ginger Hancock stated the need to provide strong support and guidance for early elementary families / students, especially with more robust remote learning.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS / CO-CHAIRS

These terms run through the end of this extended LSC term (expected to end in January 2021).

Roles / committees not decided upon today may defer to a subsequent LSC Meeting as per agenda. Officer selections need 7 or more votes.

Chairperson Selection.

Motion to nominate John Falck. John Falck elected Chairperson. One abstention.

Vice Chair

Motions to self-nominate Steve McClellan, and motion to nominate Rachael Russ.

Rachael Russ elected Vice-Chairperson.

Secretary

Motion to self-nominate Rosalynn Walker, and motion to nominate Kat O'Brien. Rosalynn Walker withdraws. Kat selected Secretary: all in favor, one abstention.

FOIA Officer

Motion to nominate Rosalynn Walker.
Rosalynn selected FOIA OFFICER; all in favor, no abstentions.

Sergeant at Arms

Motion to self-nominate Jason Emeott. All in favor, one abstention.
Rosalynn abstained from the vote on Sergeant at arms citing that it "was added to the by-laws last year, however it has not been approved by the office of LSC relations. Therefore I did not feel comfortable voting on a position that has not been approved by the office of LSC relations." In the meeting, we agreed to follow up on this. NOTE 8/13: John Falck verified with LSC relations, who verified with CPS law department, who confirmed it was fine and consistent with the Bylaws CPS provides.

COMMITTEES

Principal Eval Committee

Motion to self-nominate John Falck and Rachael Russ for co-chairs.
Motion to self-nominate Rosalynn Walker.
Rosalynn said that she thought instead of letting two people run together as co-chairs that there always had been a vote where the top two people would be co-chairs together. John disagreed.
Decision to vote on Principal Eval Committee Co-Chairs deferred to next meeting.

Budget and Finance

Motion to nominate Bridget Johnson. All in favor, no abstentions. Bridget Johnson elected.

Building, Traffic & Safety

Motion to self-nominate Rosalynn Walker. All in favor, no abstentions. Rosalynn Walker elected.

Technology

Motion to self-nominate Kat O'Brien. All in favor, no abstentions. Kat O'Brien elected.

Community Relations

Motion to self-nominate Steve McClellan and Jason Emeott. All in favor, no abstentions. Steve McClellan and Jason Emeott elected.

CIWP – Principal

Discussion about whether the Principal is necessarily the chair. Consensus yes and we will confirm.
Motion to nominate Principal Graves. All in favor, no abstentions.

DISCUSSION RE: ADDING NEW EQUITY COMMITTEE TO LSC:

Proposal to create an Equity & Diversity Committee introduced to the agenda presented by Rosalynn Walker:

- The committee would report to the LSC

- Goal is to gather and review data to create metrics and benchmarks and to report the school's performance in regard to equitable outcomes related to different demographic groups. The committee would focus on monitoring and reporting findings.
- The committee would pursue these goals by having in-depth discussions outside the LSC meeting and would present the LSC with information.
- This would be different from the Equity Task Force and would complement it. There likely would be an overlap in membership.
- Proposed committee would be comprised of anyone interested as parent/teacher/community
- One example topic: 2years ago, 8th grade algebra had one minority student, and pre-algebra had all the other minority students. Mr. Graves then made changes to the math curriculum and the school reevaluated Robert Morris program participation. This committee would seek to help us understand 'how did we get to that point?'

Questions / Discussion about Equity Committee Proposal:

- What are we proposing that the LSC Equity Committee's role be?
- What is the overlap between this committee and the Equity Task Force, including shared goals, approach, and expectation/purpose? Is there a clear need to establish this as a separate committee?
- We also have an Equity Audit – that looks at racial and gender equity in school resources.
- How will it be different from the analysis and work done by the principal and by teachers looking at equity issues within the school, including those required for CIWP which has a strong equity focus?
- Erica Harris, co-leader of the Equity Task Force suggested this committee could ask questions and perform research, and then report back to the LSC.
- Suggestion there should be a proposal for what is in scope and out of scope for this committee.
- Rosalynn Walker urged a vote this meeting. She appreciates the other council members' desire to get it right. This committee could change, evolve, and mature over time. Hopes that the committee could start gathering data this summer so going into the school year we have some idea as to what happened.
- What data do we need or want to collect over the summer? John mentioned that the Illinois State School Report card database provides data by grade and racial breakdown for PARCC and ISAT scores for the school as well as other categories, and the CPS website includes lots of databases. Data that is public could be analyzed for our school over the summer.
- Consensus that this is an idea worth pursuing, with questions about how to give it a clear focus.

Motion to create LSC Equity & Diversity Committee as proposed thus far

10 votes in favor, 1 abstention to create this committee with the scope to be clarified in future.

Motion to vote on Chairperson of Equity Committee

Motion to nominate Rosalynn Walker. 10 votes in favor, 2 abstentions.

Upcoming LSC Meeting Schedule

Motion to meet 2nd Thursdays at 5:45pm each month as the normal meeting time, which changes to be approved at least 48 hours in advance. All in favor, no abstentions.

- Aug 13, Sept 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11, March 11, April 8, May 13, June 10

Steve McClellan said that he wants to increase his volunteering at the school and his contributions through the LSC to leverage his visibility and impact as a role model and mentor for students and voiced that he has not yet been utilized as such to the full extent he feels possible. In response, Mr. Graves, John Falck, Rachael Russ, and Rosalynn Walker all offered to talk to Steve separately in response. Erica Harris thanked him for sharing his truth. Various members [overlapping on the call] offered to talk and discuss as meeting adjourned.

9:19pm Meeting Adjourned | Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday August 13th.