

# LSC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Held in the Library, Amundsen HS



**AMUNDSEN**  
Local School Council

The meeting convened at 6:05pm.

In attendance: CHINCHILLA [arrived 6:37pm], COHEN, D'ALESSIO, JOHNSON, KARASTANOVIC, NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, REED, RODAS [arrived 6:20pm]

Not attending: MUÑOZ, PEDERSEN, VEGA

*There is one vacant parent seat. The council has a quorum in attendance.*

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Les Kniskern, Family and Community Engagement (FACE) Manager for Network 2, introduced himself. Prior to the re-organization, he was in the same position for the Ravenswood-Ridge (Elementary School) network.

## INTERNAL ACCOUNTS

*Mr JOHNSON moved to approve the internal accounts for November 2013, seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.*

## APPROVAL OF EXPENSES

Mr Williams requested the approval of the expenditure for the senior class lunch cruise. This is an annual event, to be held this year on Thursday May 29, 2014. The total cost, payable to Mystic Blue Cruises, will be \$13,851.90. After approval by the LSC, technical approval is also required by the CPS Law Office.

*Ms D'ALESSIO moved to approve the expense, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.*

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Mr COHEN moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 14, 2013, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.*

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

This Friday we will have the middle of the year EPAS testing. These tests are a useful benchmark for teachers and administration, although they are unofficial and do not themselves count towards the school's performance ratings. The results will be used to identify students who will be offered "Boot Camp" for the ACTs. We will also compile

individual reports for students and aggregate reports for teachers, to identify strengths and weaknesses.

Ms PAVICHEVICH wrote a grant which was funded at \$21,250 to cover much of the costs of this Boot Camp. This can help us focus on improving our test scores. Teachers will be invited to participate in the Boot Camp for free, which is an excellent opportunity for professional development for them. We have not yet formalized the criteria for which students will be offered boot camp. One group that will be taken is those kids who are currently scoring in the 16-18 range, which is just a below the score that local state colleges are often looking for.

REACH evaluations are continuing, with all 4 evaluators (Principal + 3 AP's).

We are continuing our social media outreach: twitter, instagram, facebook. Our open houses for elementary schools have nevertheless been poorly attended. We have also had 3 of 6 IB open houses, which are going somewhat better.

Our computer labs are open and operating. The CTE (Career and Technical Education) group from CPS, along with CDW, visited the school yesterday, and they are considering building yet another computer lab. Computer equipment donated via Congressman Quigley is also expected soon.

We have a meeting on December 19th with John Barker, the head of the CPS Office of Accountability, to discuss the attendance anomalies from 2010 that are negatively impacting our current performance ratings.

The wrestling event was held over Thanksgiving break. It was described as "interesting". It was reasonably successful, at least financially — the school made approximately \$1700 in concessions from the event, plus any amount we will be paid in the future by the production company.

Mr NEWMAN asked about linking the IB program at Amundsen with the nascent IB Middle Years program at St. Matthias; this linkage is of interest to Amundsen but has not yet been seriously discussed with St. Matthias.

After School Matters is offering a program for mobile app writing at Amundsen. A group of 15 girls (this program is gender limited) are going to be participating.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

We are hoping to build links to other schools's LSCs. Mr JOHNSON has been participating in parents' nights at Amundsen, to help talk to other parents. The council discussed some ideas about how to connect to prospective students and families on a personal level.

## **PPLC REPORT**

The PPLC is planning a full day professional development segment in January, to focus on the importance of the Day 2 test.

## **STUDENT'S REPORT**

The announcement system is quite muddled. It is challenging to hear the announcements.

Mr CHINCHILLA is planning a system to put announcements on televisions in the auditorium and lunch room. We don't know when we will get this done, but it is probably a summer project.

## **ADJOURN**

*Mr NEWMAN moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.*

*The meeting adjourned at 7:05pm.*