LSC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 12, 2019
Held in the Library, Amundsen HS

The meeting convened at 6:05pm.
In attendance: CHINCHILLA, DAVILA, GORSKI, NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, PEDERSEN, REYNOLDS, VEGA [arrived 6:20pm], YEE, ZEHREN
Not attending: CORDERO, DEL VALLE, MARTEL

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sarah Makela noted that March 28th will be an evening with Lake View and Amundsen, hosted at Lake View, but Amundsen will be well represented.

GROW will also have a spring planting day on June 1 at 10am, in partnership with the Taste the Difference club.

Tracey Balderson, board member of Friends of Amundsen, discussed the upcoming “Raise the Sails” fundraising event on May 3rd. The FoA is still asking for donations for this event. So far through the “Amundsen Allies” program the group has raised $15,000, including a recent donation from the Chicago Cubs of $2,500 plus a signed bat for the event auction. They now have a $60,000 fundraising goal for the event.

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS AND SPENDING

The internal accounts for the current month are not yet available from CPS. In addition, Mr Williams is in the middle of a CPS audit, and had indicated that the auditors could not find a spending authorization in the LSC minutes for the current school year. Mr NEWMAN said they wouldn’t find it that recently, as he recalled the LSC had last made such an authorization a couple years ago, with the explicit stipulation that it would continue indefinitely as long as Ms PAVICHEVICH remained the principal.

Ms DAVILA moved to continue to authorize Ms PAVICHEVICH to herself authorize spending on any item up to $10,000 so long as she remains the principal, seconded by Ms ZEHREN. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms DAVILA moved to approve the minutes for February, seconded by Ms ZEHREN. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms DAVILA moved to approve the minutes for July, September, and October, seconded by Ms ZEHREN. The motion was approved unanimously.
Testing is coming, starting Tuesday April 9, with juniors taking the SAT; this is a non-attendance day for all other students. PSAT testing for 9th and 10th grades will be the following day April 10. CPS has requested permission from ISBE to make that day a non-attendance day for 11th and 12th grades. If it is not, we will arrange field trips for those students that day. Thursday April 11 is report card pick up day, and we expect attendance will swoon on Friday, the last day of school before spring break. We are encouraging teachers to hold special events in class to encourage attendance, as we cannot hold a school-wide event because testing accommodations will mean some students will still be testing that day. Ms PAVICHEVICH is advocating with CPS to try to be more mindful of this scheduling mess and not let it happen again in the future.

School trips are going to Japan and Spain (separate trips, not together, yikes!) over spring break. We already have 39 students signed up to go on the trip to Switzerland, Germany, and Austria next year, plus a wait list. Ms LaBrasca will be coordinating this and probably future travel programs. Mr YEE pointed out that the school trip to Europe next year may require visas or some kind of similar authorization.

We’re also hosting visitors from IB to review our CP program, and from the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) as a site visit in conjunction with that group’s convention this weekend.

Our Academic Decathlon team will be competing this weekend, and we have high hopes for outstanding levels success.

A member of our girl’s soccer team has earned an athletic scholarship, the first time in many years that a member of that team has done so. In addition to this being great in and of itself, we are learning what we need to do to make sure that our other star athletes get the exposure they need to win similar scholarships. More generally, we are currently at about $12.5 million of scholarships for the senior class, which is probably 40% more than we have ever seen before at this point in the year.

The director of the Gear Up program at Northeastern, Irma Ortiz, terminated Amundsen’s formal relationship with that service. Amundsen will not have to pay the second half of the $50,000 fee for this service.

Ms PAVICHEVICH is continuing confidential staff meetings, which have been very successful so far.

Both Ms CORDERO and Ms PAVICHEVICH had Golden Apple reviews. For Ms CORDERO they focused on her personal practice. Ms PAVICHEVICH’s processes was bigger — more people, more questions, more of pretty much everything. The review team for Ms PAVICHEVICH was a pair of exceptionally qualified reviewers, and they reported back afterwards that they were very impressed.
Ms GORSKI asked about trying to set up some kind of system of supports for special education graduates. We know we provide these supports to current students, but we’re not sure if special education graduates are finding the right supports and achieving their best outcomes after they graduate. Bringing recent graduates from this program back as mentors could also provide tangible benefits for the current students. The LSC tasked Ms PAVICHEVICH with thinking about what to do about providing the right supports and transitions for these graduates.

**SCHOOL FEES**

Ms PAVICHEVICH presented a review of school fee collections for the current school year. It indicated an overall level of payment of about 80% for the freshman class, declining to about 45% for the senior class. The LSC discussed thinking about ways to get the payment compliance rates up, although Mr CHINCHILLA indicated that not all but most students do eventually settle up outstanding fees by graduation.

The council then discussed a proposal to (1) increase the base mandatory fee for all students to $225, and (2) to set fees and policies for participation in athletic programs. There was general agreement that having fees for participation in athletic programs would be reasonable, and that the amounts could vary from one program to another, depending on the relevant costs of running the program. It was also agreed that there should be some mechanism for students who want to participate to do so, even if for whatever reason they could not pay these fees, possibly through scholarships, fundraising opportunities, or volunteer hours. It was agreed that the amounts for those fees should be fixed and publicized to the school community as soon as possible, and Ms PAVICHEVICH was tasked with making a proposal for these fees at the LSC at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Mr REYNOLDS also suggested that when fees are collected, there should be an explicit suggestion to families that they could pay more than the stated fee, in effect providing subsidies for other families who would receive waivers on the base or additional fees.

*Ms DAVILA moved to set the base school fee for the 2019-2020 academic year at $225, seconded by Ms ZEHREN. The motion was approved unanimously.*

**CHAIR’S REPORT**

The post-secondary committee process is going well. There was a well attended event over the weekend.

**PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE**

The PPLC is working with the Instructional Leadership Team to plan walkthroughs.

**PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL**
The PAC met recently but did not have a quorum. They are planning a few more events for this year, including a CPR training which they hope will be well attended.

**SCHEDULE CHANGE**

The LSC agreed to change the meeting in June from June 11 to June 4, to avoid a conflict with graduation.

**ADJOURN**

*The meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.*