

# LSC Organizational Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 10, 2013

Held in the Library, Amundsen HS



**AMUNDSEN**  
Local School Council

The meeting convened at 6:20pm.

In attendance: COHEN, D’ALESSIO, JOHNSON,  
NEWMAN [arrived 6:26pm], PAVICHEVICH, REED, RODAS

Not attending: EVANS, MUÑOZ, PEDERSEN, VEGA

*On June 26, 2013, the CPS Board of Education appointed Irma Rodas to fill the student seat on the LSC for a one year term commencing July 1, 2013. As a result, there is one vacant parent seat, and one vacant ESP seat.*

*The council did not have a quorum in attendance at the commencement of the meeting. A quorum was achieved at 6:26pm. No votes on any topic were taken without a quorum.*

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

## PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

The CPS Chief of Facilities contacted the school to arrange to walk through the capital improvements list. They wanted a lot of detail about the technology center, changes in the cafeteria, and the sound system in the auditorium. CPS can’t provide computers. Another CPS high school recently received grant funding to buy computers, so Amundsen will arrange to accept the now-surplus computers from that school, to augment our limited supply of machines.

We are meeting with Northeastern Illinois University, and plan to more widely publicize our partnership.

Once we have our report from Lumity, we will use that needs analysis to help us identify sources of funding to fill our technology needs.

We were accepted by the “BAM” (becoming a man) program. This targets 40 freshmen and sophomores, trying to enhance self esteem.

IB scores for this year were very good: 13 students earned full diplomas (the most difficult degree available), and 12 more were “near misses”. Last year, there were only 6 full diplomas earned; a few years ago, it was only one. This is a very good trend. The fraction of “passing” scores on every subject matter test within the IB program increased for every category except music. CPS-wide, 40% of IB students pass the exams; at Amundsen this year, 60% passed.

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

*Ms D'ALESSIO moved to elect Mr JOHNSON as chair of the LSC for the 2013-14 School Year, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.*

*Mr COHEN moved to elect Ms D'ALESSIO as vice chair of the LSC for the 2013-14 School Year, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.*

*Mr REED moved to elect Mr NEWMAN as secretary of the LSC for the 2013-14 School Year, seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.*

*Ms D'ALESSIO moved to elect Mr NEWMAN as FOIA and OMA officer for the 2013-14 School Year, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.*

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

*Ms D'ALESSIO moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 11, 2013 seconded by Mr COHEN. The motion was approved unanimously.*

*Mr COHEN moved to approve the minutes of the meeting held on June 20, 2103 seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.*

## SPENDING AND INTERNAL ACCOUNTS

*Ms D'ALESSIO moved to approve the expenditure of \$6625.30 for the purchase of t-shirts and blankets for the senior class, seconded by Mr COHEN. The motion was approved unanimously.*

The council discussed the possibility of finding "aged" accounts that have not had activity in the past year, so as to either make sure that those funds get spent on appropriate activities as previously committed, or to release them to be spent on other priorities in the upcoming year. Specifically identified were funds for Dream scholarships and Global Village activities, although any other aged accounts should be identified as well.

*Mr NEWMAN moved to approve the internal accounts for June 2013, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.*

The budget for the Parent Advisory Committee was presented.

For presenters, honoraria, etc.	\$5,000
Consulting	\$2,000
Postage	\$1,500
Refreshments	\$600
Furniture and Equipment	\$200
Supplies	\$1,269

*Mr NEWMAN moved to approve the budget for the PAC, seconded by Mr REED.  
The motion was approved unanimously.*

### SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

The council discussed a schedule of meetings for the upcoming year, continuing the past tradition of meeting on the second Tuesday of each month, with some exceptions to accommodate the CPS calendar:

August 20, 2013 (3rd Tuesday)  
September 10, 2013  
October 8, 2013  
November 14, 2013 (Thursday)  
December 10, 2013  
January 14, 2014  
February 13, 2014 (Thursday)  
March 11, 2014  
April 8, 2014  
May 13, 2014  
June 10, 2014

*Ms D'ALESSIO moved to approve the schedule of meetings as listed, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.*

### STATEMENT ON THE BUDGET

The LSC discussed the text of an official statement and letter to Mayor Emanuel and CPS Board President Vitale:

“We, the Amundsen High School Local School Council, recently approved the 2013-2014 school budget of \$11,928,201 – a budget that totals approximately \$1 million less than the 2012-2013 budget. However, our approval should in no way be perceived as an endorsement of the budget cuts. We are balancing the need to prepare for the new school year with the need to ensure proper funding for education.

“Like many other LSCs, we believe more needs to be done to stabilize the budget situation for CPS to provide our children with the very best education possible. We understand that ALL schools are involved in this predicament. We will stand with Common Sense: Coalition of LSCs, but the reality of current deficits faced by CPS

needs to be dealt with in a variety of ways and – as of now – these budget reductions are only an initial component.

“The Lincoln Square Patch recently reported on a handful of Chicago aldermen discussing a proposed ordinance allowing TIF funding to be used for supporting neighborhood schools. We all understand TIF funding is typically reserved for economic development. Currently, we are only left with options such as these to get money into the classrooms for the coming school year and beyond. If families restart the flight to the suburbs, it will erode the very economic base TIF seeks to build.

“As all options are explored, we expect that budget pain and gain will be shared equally among all schools across the entire city. Access to the city’s corporate relationships should be shared. The availability of other resources for improvement should be shared.

“In the end, schools are the key to keeping families in Chicago and securing the best prepared generation of students for our communities and for our city.”

*Mr COHEN moved to adopt the text of the letter and have it sent to Mr Emanuel and Mr Vitale, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved with Mr COHEN, Ms D’ALESSIO, Mr JOHNSON, Mr NEWMAN, Mr REED, and Ms RODAS voting in the affirmative, Ms PAVICHEVICH abstaining.*

#### **COALITION OF LSC’S FOR FAIR FUNDING**

A meeting was held at Blaine Elementary, Mr COHEN attended the meeting, but did not participate other than noting his attendance.

No future meetings of this coalition are known to be scheduled at this time.

#### **ADJOURN**

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

*The meeting adjourned at 8:05pm.*