LSC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 3, 2015
Held in the Library, Amundsen HS

The meeting convened at 6:16 pm.
In attendance: BIJEDIC [arrived 7:03pm], CHINCHILLA, COHEN, GORSKI, MAHONEY, NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, PEDERSEN, REED, SOTIROVA, VEGA
Not attending: KARASTANOVIC, MUÑOZ

The council had a quorum in attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

SPENDING AND INTERNAL ACCOUNTS

Approval of internal accounts was tabled to the next meeting because Mr Williams was at a funeral and unable to prepare the reports in time for the meeting.

Mr CHINCHILLA made a proposal to purchase or lease laptop carts. We are currently not in compliance in regard to PARCC, as we do not have enough modern computers to administer required exams. Adding 3 laptop carts would get us the minimum number of laptops required for testing.

To purchase 3 laptop carts would be a one-time cost of $131,300, payable all this year. To lease the computers would require a contract costing $46,000 per year for 3 years.

Mr REED moved to approve the lease of 3 laptop carts at a cost of $46,000 per year for 3 years, seconded by Mr CHINCHILLA. The motion was approved unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr REED moved to approve the minutes from August 11, September 8, and October 13, 2016, seconded by Ms VEGA. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

We are now a level 1 school, and very happy about that fact, although what we are genuinely happy about is the underlying growth; the label itself is not that important. It has been a lot of work but we are showing great growth among all of our students.
We will be having an open house this Saturday. We will have the PAC, the Friends of Amundsen, GrowCommunity, and lots of others participating. We also will have an IB info session (the very dry, CPS-wide event). We had a mixed last week, which was modestly attended but notably almost all of the attendees were from private elementary schools.

So far we know we have 5 “Posse Scholarship” finalists, possibly there will be more. Our swim team is the conference champion.

We are partnering with the Harold Washington Cultural Center in a Bob Fosse (an Amundsen alum) event on November 18. The University of Chicago partnership through GROW Community is moving forward. We have $65k in grants to provide support to our staff and school, to help us think about how we do business. We are going to be focusing on the “community” aspect and not just the explicit catchment boundary established by CPS; although we have a mandate to accept students in our official attendance boundary, we will make it a priority to serve students in our community regardless of whether they live within the boundary.

AP Eilers gave a brief presentation on the school’s streamlined uniform grading policy. The new policy is teacher led but based on a desire to be consistent across classrooms. Some teachers established grading rubrics that were based too heavily on subjective behavioral measures. We established summative, formative, and work habits categories. The work habits grade cannot be worth more than 10% of the total grade. Summative assessments (exams & similar proof of mastery activities) are worth 50-60%, while formative assessments (homework & similar practice-type activities) filling out the rest. We also made it so that if formative work is completed, even if not on time, students must get some credit.

There is a budget crisis coming; we expect massive budget cuts but we don’t know how big or when. We hired 3 special education classroom assistants, which are super important positions and may end up being better than having more teachers.

PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

No report.

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

No report.

STUDENT REPORT

Many students want to walk out of class to protest budget cuts. However, they realized that such a protest would do more harm than good, so instead they are planning an after-school protest.
PRINCIPAL CUMULATIVE EVALUATION

The council discussed the cumulative evaluation for Ms PAVICHEVICH. The council agreed to adopt the average the prior years methodology suggested by Mr Marcus Pitman.

Mr NEWMAN moved to adopt the cumulative evaluation of Ms PAVICHEVICH as the average of the prior three evaluations, seconded by Mr REED. Voting in favor were Ms BIJEDIC, Mr CHINCHILLA, Mr COHEN, Ms GORSKI, Ms MAHONEY, Mr NEWMAN, Mr PEDERSEN, Mr REED, and Ms VEGA. There were no votes against. Not present were Ms KARASTANOVIC and Ms MUÑOZ. Ms PAVICHEVICH and Ms SOTIROVA were not eligible to vote on this motion.

PRINCIPAL RETENTION

Mr NEWMAN moved to renew the contract of Ms PAVICHEVICH for a new 4 year term to commence July 1, 2016, seconded by Ms VEGA. Voting in favor were Ms BIJEDIC, Mr CHINCHILLA, Mr COHEN, Ms GORSKI, Ms MAHONEY, Mr NEWMAN, Mr PEDERSEN, Mr REED, and Ms VEGA. There were no votes against. Not present were Ms KARASTANOVIC and Ms MUÑOZ. Ms PAVICHEVICH and Ms SOTIROVA were not eligible to vote on this motion.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49pm.