The meeting convened at 6:00pm.
In attendance: CORDERO, DAVILA, DEL VALLE, GORSKI, NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, REYNOLDS, VEGA, YEE, ZEHREN
Not attending: CHINCHILLA, MARTEL, PEDERSEN

PUBLIC COMMENT

GROW Community held an ambassador meeting at the Piggery, including some current Amundsen and Lake View students. Also, March 28th there will be an evening with Lake View and Amundsen, from 6 to 8pm at Lake View.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Ms DAVILA moved to approve the minutes for January 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS AND SPENDING

There are no spending items for approval.

Mr YEE moved to accept the internal accounts for January 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

We want to congratulate Ms CORDERO for being a Golden Apple teacher finalist, one of 32 finalists in the state. Also Ms PAVICHEVICH was selected as a Golden Apple principal finalist.

AP Eilers passed the principal eligibility test (on her first attempt).

At the end of quarter 1, we had 21 Freshman “off track”. At the end of the 2nd quarter, that number was reduced to 11, putting our Freshman on track score at 97%, the highest value ever for Amundsen. We are also tracking Sophomores, who are 93% on track. Our projected college enrollment goal is 75%, and according to preliminary numbers for last year’s gradating class we will meet that goal.

We are hosting the memorial for the victims of the Pulse nightclub shooting in Orlando. There will be a public event Feb 21st, 5:30 to 8pm. The GSA is working to coordinate with GSA’s at other schools as well.
We’ll be having an award ceremony on Friday, to celebrate achievements in academics, attendance, and various facets of the Viking Way. It’s mostly for staff and students, but parents are welcome to attend if they want.

There may be a technical problem with student report cards, as the school was cancelled for cold on the last week of the 2nd quarter, and a change in the deadline for teachers to enter grades (by CPS, not Amundsen) was not coordinated with the generation of report cards.

The athletic director is doing well, exceeding expectations for his work. He’s encouraging coaches to attend IHSA meetings, arranging clinics, and other activities that will help our overall athletic program. If anything, he is being too successful at coordinating events, as the totality of what is being proposed exceeds the available budget for athletic programs.

Our Special Olympics team had a great run, although the events were cut short due to the extreme cold. Supplies were donated through purchases from Amazon, which was also very successful.

The GSA will make a presentation to the administration about a proposal to create a gender neutral bathroom. They will present on a budget for the change, talk about who needs it and why, etc. The proposal will be approved, but we want to take advantage of this opportunity to offer our students the chance to make their case and learn how to lobby for things that are important to them.

Students are also signing up for the school trip to Switzerland, Germany, and Austria. The trip is not just a language-based experience but more an opportunity to learn about and be exposed to international travel and different cultures. We had an information session and about a dozen students have already signed up, about 1/3 of the available slots.

Ms PAVICHEVCH is offering staff confidential one-on-one meetings, to offer staff the chance to give feedback about pretty much anything. We expect one teacher is going to propose adding a service learning trip, which will not just be travel but also include a specific service experience for students.

Testing is coming up in April, both SAT and PSAT.

Our budget for next year will come in March or April. We expect that our needs and wants for programming and activities, especially the athletic programs being promoted and coordinated by the new athletic director, but also some curricular things, will exceed our available resources. We will need to have a serious conversation soon about fees for next year. We also think we need a more consistent policy about what teams and clubs get from school resources, what kind of fundraising is done, and what each team does with its resources.
IB is coming here in March to showcase our new CP program. They are interested in highlighting and learning about how the corporate sponsorship (Dyson) for CP is working out.

The website transition is a bit bumpy. It is with a new provider, and looks better now, but it’s not “finished”. Colleen Murray has a checklist and she is following up with staff that need to provide or update content. Mr REYNOLDS asked if any staff member will have responsibility for maintaining the website going forward. The administration is concerned about assigning it to any one staffer as we do not want to make it a full time job (which it obviously can turn into).

Lastly, our lobbying efforts around the summer indoor temperatures will bear fruit soon. This summer, a number of large window air conditioning units will be installed in the cafeteria, and an enhanced ventilation system will be installed in the gymnasium, to try to at least keep the temperature in the gym not much hotter than the outside temperature.

CHAIR’S REPORT

The chair has been participating in the post-secondary leadership committee meetings. They happen the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays each month, at 3:15 in the conference room. Parents are welcome to attend if they have anything they want to discuss.

PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

The PPLC recorded some videos in each other’s classrooms, and is coordinating with the instructional leadership team on getting teachers into other classrooms.

PROFESSIONAL PERSONNEL LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Ms. Serna and Mr PEDERSEN met last week, reviewed the data from our parent survey, and set the agenda for the PAC Meeting for February 19th at 5:00pm. We have set up three training/seminars for the last four months. The PAC also needs to discuss a potential parent event that would benefit the PAC agenda through coordination with Gear-Up and aligned with our survey outcomes as well. We will need a quorum at the meeting to ensure we can conduct official business in order to take action.

STUDENT’S REPORT

The GSA is working on fundraising for the memorial (see above). They are reaching out to other schools to coordinate this. Also, the GSA has expanded from just a handful of students to a whole classroom full of people when they meet.

The Student Voice is thinking about cafeteria conditions. They are thinking about issues about the slowness of the line, and running out of food. Ms PAVICHEVICH asked that
reports of issues about running out of food be expedited, as that is something that should not happen and should be addressed promptly by the cafeteria management.

FRIENDS OF AMUNSEN

The FoA is very excited about the work with the new athletic director. The School Spirit committee is working to get elementary school students interested in Amundsen by getting them involved and visiting the building and the property in person. One thing to push this will be a sports clinic on May 18th, from 9 to 12, plus a $25 fee to teams, targeting 5-8 graders.

FoA didn’t have a beginning of school event this year, and we had a number of inquiries why not, so we plan to have that again next year and to make it a regular event going forward.

The big FoA fundraising event will be May 3rd, at Trigger (2018 W Addison). The goal for this fundraiser is to net $45K. Last year they raised $23K. This is ambitious but FoA thinks attainable.

On behalf of FoA, Ms Beneen made a request that the LSC approve the fundraiser.

Ms DAVILA moved to approve the fundraiser. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:32pm.