LSC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 5, 2019
Held in the Library, Amundsen HS

The meeting convened at 6:02pm.
In attendance: DAVILA, GORSKI, NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, PEDERSEN, YEE, ZEHREN
Not attending: CHINCHILLA, CORDERO, FARSTER, PHUTHAPHAN, REYNOLDS, VEGA

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS AND SPENDING

No reports were available from CPS.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

We had a strike. We didn’t have school for over 2 weeks. School is back now, but it may be some time before all the negative consequences are fully understood. School resumed on Friday, which was actually something a good thing, as it gave the school community the chance to have a re-start day that wasn’t taken too seriously as a bona fide instructional day by anyone — we had a DJ for the students, breakfast for staff, and some other morale rebuilding activities. We have tried to communicate to the students that everything is OK, and not to stress over being far behind. We do not want students to feel like they are responsible for getting “caught up” as this was not their fault.

Grades that will be entered next week are “air grades” and won’t go onto any student’s permanent record. This is not a special treatment — 1st quarter grades are more like a progress report anyhow and only semester grades are permanently recorded — but students don’t usually know or understand that. We are explicitly communicating this to students this year.

In addition to the lost instructional time, we lost the PSAT as it was not administered. We plan to use Academic Approach, on November 19th, we will administer a pseudo-PSAT test for 9th and 10th grade students, which is not official, but we will treat it seriously. We’ll administer the SAT for 11th graders. We also submitted a grant proposal to cover the expenses, in addition to Boot Camp this year.

The other concern was athletics. The strike was resolved in time for some of our students to participate officially in playoffs. Our football team was also able to compete in the state playoffs. We did not win the game but perhaps we should have — our team
was good, but new to the state playoffs and a week of lost practice was not good for our team. We also organized a tailgate with less than 24 hours notice, and it was fun.

We’ve confirmed we will get the grant for $8K for musical instruments.

Make up days were announced: Nov 27 (before Thanksgiving), Jan 2 and 3 (from winter break), and June 17 and 18 (at the end of the year).

Report card pickup will be held as scheduled, it will not be moved on account of the strike. The Homecoming dance will be held next Friday, and the haunted house will be rescheduled for December, becoming the Nightmare before Christmas. Picture Day will be November 13 for 9th and 10th, and November 15 for 11th and 12th grades.

We are concerned about our attendance levels with respect to the SQRP rating: attendance was very low on the Friday after the strike, and we expect attendance to be low on pretty much all of the make up days as well.

CPS will be having some open meetings coming up, to get feedback from the community about the budget. The LSC discussed what issues it might reasonably raise with the board, and decided not to take any formal action as the LSC.

PARENTS ADVISORY COUNCIL

Has not had a quorum in 2 months. We need to recruit some parents to actually attend in order to conduct business. We will try to do so by offering snacks and coffee at report card pickup, plus open tours of the Erie Health Center from 3-5pm. On December 10, we want to have a “High School 101” session plus some post-secondary content.

FRIENDS OF AMUNDESEN

Homecoming went well, we sold about $1K in spirit wear. They also helped organize a “Friends of Amundsen Athletics” event that raised about $2K, and held a “Back to School Boost” fundraiser that netted about $3,700, which was a bit short of the ambitious goal. The FoA also co-sponsored the staff back-to-school breakfast after the strike.

The the big “Raise the Sails” fundraiser has been rescheduled for April 24th, to get space at “Trigger”, which was not available on the originally planned date.

ADJOURN

The LSC adjourned at 6:53pm.