LSC Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, July 9, 2019
Held in the Library, Amundsen HS

The meeting convened at 6:05pm.
In attendance: CHINCHILLA, DAVILA, FARSTER [appointed 6:12pm], GORSKI, NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, PEDERSEN, PHUTHAPHAN, REYNOLDS, VEGA, YEE, ZEHREN
Not attending: CORDERO

At the beginning of this meeting, there was one vacant Community Representative seat.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Ms DAVILA was nominated to serve as chair by Ms ZEHREN, seconded by Mr PEDERSEN. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr YEE was nominated to serve as vice chair by himself, seconded by Ms ZEHREN. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr NEWMAN was nominated to serve as secretary by Ms DAVILA, seconded by Mr REYNOLDS. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPOINTMENTS TO FILL VACANT SEAT

Mr Bob Farster introduced himself and put himself forward as a candidate to fill the vacant community member seat. Ms PAVICHEVICH noted that he was a part of the athletic coaching process recently.

Mr NEWMAN moved to appoint Mr FARSTER to the vacant community member seat, seconded by Ms ZEHREN. The motion was approved unanimously.

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS AND SPENDING

There are no spending requests and the internal accounts are not yet available.

From our incoming Freshman class, 134 students paid their fees early.

There was a “full scope” audit this past school year, which the school passed. There were no significant issues identified during the audit.
Mr NEWMAN moved to authorize Ms PAVICHEVICH to personally approve all school expenditures of amounts up to $10,000, without any additional approval by the LSC, seconded by Ms ZEHREN. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Prom will be held this year on June 6, at Carnivale again. We may need a bigger venue for the Class of 2021, as we are approaching the capacity of that venue.

Graduation will be June 11th at Navy Pier in the Grand Ballroom, as the Lyric Opera House will be putting on a show in June and that venue will not be available. The overall cost to the school will not be higher than at Lyric, although parking costs for attendees may be more.

We are still looking at a freshman class of about 422. Ms PAVICHEVICH’s request to accept the 3 students she has been advocating for (for whom all of the students, their families, and the principals of the sending schools are all in support of them attending Amundsen) has been denied by CPS administration. Ms PAVICHEVICH will continue to advocate on behalf of these students, and going forward plans to advocate for the establishment of a “principal’s discretion” policy for neighborhood schools, similar to the policy in effect for selective enrollment schools.

We are almost fully staffed for the year. We had a couple of very senior teachers retire, which freed up enough money to hire one additional teacher, which will be a Computer Science position.

We plan to have 5 periods of lunch, instead of the 4 we had in the past. This will result in some students having a very long stretch of classes before lunch, so we will be instituting a “students may eat in class” policy unless doing so presents an actual hatch safety issue (e.g. in a science lab). This will not be a blanket “eat anything” rule as food will need to be minimally disruptive, but generally teachers will not be allowed to prevent students from eating.

Our new athletic coaching policy has been a “home run”. We learned that we can raise our expectations for coaches and in general, and the staff will for the most part rise to meet these expectations, or at least step out of the way to let others rise. We have staff, some of whom were not previously coaches, brought real passion and ideas to the process. A few of the people who previously held coaching positions were not enthusiastic about being asked to re-apply for their jobs, but they either stepped up or their coaching positions were transitioned to others who wanted to. We now have a whole new crop of coaches, and a lot of renewed enthusiasm for the coming year.

We had 264 IB exams passed by our students. Some students who did not earn their IB diploma still passed 5 of 6 exams. The overall pass rate (among all students taking exams) was 71%, down slightly from last year’s rate of 73%. We had almost double the amount of IB diplomas awarded, and we had more students earn top scores (as
opposed to just barely passing) than ever before. But we’re still struggling with Bio and Chem (the latter of which we offered at the IB level for the first time this year).

Our “5 Essentials” survey results are all green this year. We were even rated as having “effective leadership” this year, which is always a challenge in this survey.

Registration is set up, we’ve picked the dates and published them (for 9th graders already, for other grades soon). We’re also running Freshman Connection, which is very popular this year.

The ID scanner system for visitors is in flux, so we have not been able to put in these scanners yet.

Work in the cafeteria and gym seems to be on hold as well, as construction on these facilities enhancements have not yet begin.

Ms PAVICHEVICH will be serving on the district’s “big bargaining team” during union negotiations.

We have already ordered 6 chromebook carts using funds raised by the Friends of Amundsen, as well as 7 laptops for security.

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**PARENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

The CPR class was popular, and we’ll try to do it again in the fall. On July 24th, there will also be a training with “DEY”, a two hour parent training for recognizing and managing social and emotional stress, to help parents develop coping and problem solving skills.

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**STUDENTS REPORT**

Ms Chainida PHUTHAPHAN is the new student representative.

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**SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS**

The LSC set the following dates for regular meetings this year (all at 6pm):

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<td>October 8, 2019</td>
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CUMULATIVE EVALUATION AND RENEWAL OF PRINCIPAL CONTRACT

The LSC entered closed session at 7:08pm.

The LSC entered open session at 7:36pm.

Mr NEWMAN moved to approve the cumulative evaluation for Ms PAVICHEVICH for the current contract term (July 2016 to June 2020), seconded by Ms DAVILA. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr NEWMAN moved to renew the contract for Ms PAVICHEVICH for the new contract term (July 2020 to June 2024), seconded by Ms DAVILA.

Members voting in favor (10): CHINCHILLA, DAVILA, FARSTER, GORSKI, NEWMAN, PEDERSEN, REYNOLDS, VEGA, YEE, ZEHREN

Members present but not eligible to vote on this motion (2): PAVICHEVICH, PHUTHAPHAN

Members voting against (0): None

Members present (1): CORDERO

By a vote of 10-0, the motion was approved.

ADJOURN

The LSC adjourned at 7:40pm.