PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms Makela shared that GROW Community has posted its webinar on GoCPS and GROW policies.

The council discussed some preliminary data from the GoCPS enrollment process, although it is unclear what the numbers mean as this is the first year with the entirely new GoCPS process, so there is not much history to compare against.

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS AND SPENDING

The internal accounts are now managed by CPS. The LSC reviewed the reports from the month of November.

Mr Williams reported that about half of freshman had paid the student fees, much higher than in the past. Those families who owe more than $100 were asked to stop by the fee station at the report card pickup.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Ms DAVILA moved to approve the minutes for April and June 2017, seconded by Mr NEWMAN. The motion passed unanimously.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

We were approved by CPS to apply for the IB Career Program (“CP”), which will round out the complete high school IB portfolio. We may complete that process by next year.

We’ve been talking with “Youth Entrepreneurship” company from Kansas, who are looking to expand into Chicago, and the program fits well with the Dyson curriculum. We are also partnering with a school in Bath (England) to have an engineering project exchange.
PSAT scores are available; students can access the scores online. All 9th, 10th and 11th graders took the PSAT this year. We will also be working with parents and teachers on how to interpret the reports and use the results productively.

We switched to Kaplan for our boot camp this year, as the previous provider had more expertise with the ACT than the SAT, and since the SAT is the main test now. Ms PAVICHEVICH proposed to expand the boot camp to 120 students, half juniors which we will specifically identify and invite to participate, and half freshmen and sophomores on a first come first serve. Typically we have been receiving Walbridge grants to cover $21.5K of boot camp expenses, although to offer the program to 120 students will cost $36K. Mr NEWMAN suggested that signing up for the boot camp program should be predicated on being up-to-date on school fees (or having appropriately applied for a hardship waiver).

Ms DAVILA moved to approve the offering of and expenditure for Boot Camp as proposed by Ms PAVICHEVICH, seconded by Ms GORSKI. The motion passed unanimously.

We received the results of the Practice Based Inquiry. The primary finding from the report was that we have an insufficient focus on “cognitive demand” (i.e., too much explaining, not enough pushing kids to figure things out on their own).

We expect the administration will make our school an official “wall to wall IB” school.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.