

LSC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 8, 2013
Library, Amundsen HS



AMUNDSEN
Local School Council

The meeting convened at 6:08pm.

In attendance: COHEN, D’ALESSIO, EVANS, MUÑOZ,
NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, PEREZ [arrived 6:11pm], REED,
Not attending: ESPINOZA, JOHNSON, VEGA

There is one vacant parent seat, and one vacant teacher seat.

The council has a quorum (at least 7 members) in attendance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr COHEN moved to approve the minutes for the meeting in December, seconded by Mr REED. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr NEWMAN moved to approve the minutes for the closed session of the meeting in December, seconded by Mr COHEN. The motion was approved unanimously.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

A key fob will be installed on the back door of the school, so that all doors can remain locked or actively monitored at all times during the school day. Ceilings in the gym were re-evaluated and an estimate for repairs will be forthcoming. Carpets were replaced with hardwood floors in the main office of the school. A school elsewhere in the district closed and Amundsen claimed a large quantity of used but high quality equipment, at no cost.

Winter activities filled the schedule in December: a sports banquet, a concert, plays, the winter carnival, a winter dance. These are part of a strategy to keep students engaged and keep attendance high. The attendance rate fell somewhat in December (as expected) but only to about 87-88%, as opposed to an attendance rate of 82% in the year ago period. We started “Freshman on track” support, as well as tutoring.

Georgina Espinoza (our student LSC member, not in attendance) was a POSSE scholarship winner.

Assistant Principal Evans resigned effective the first week of January. Someone will be brought on to support the culture and climate functions of this position, on a consultative basis.

Principal PAVICHEVICH will be taking a well earned vacation next week.

Because of the 100% school lunch form submission rate, the school received an extra \$18k in funding for this year.

PPLC REPORT

The PPLC has established a framework for a tutoring plan after school, which places students with their current or known teachers. Tracking systems are in place to provide accountability and support for both teachers and students. Incentives will be offered to get students.

The technology inventory: an in-classroom, in-use inventory has been completed. There is not a list of stored and out-of-use equipment.

The technology ideal is that every classroom would have a baseline level of technology: a fixed overhead projector, laptop access when required, and an Elmo document projector.

Regarding smart boards: are not regarded currently as effective. The school currently has 4, but they are not highly utilized. There will be some training on the use of the smart boards, and then once trained, the staff will be able to decide on their own if they want to use them more.

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS

Mr COHEN inquired regarding the graduation and students activity fees, which have large amounts (\$150k) in the accounts for October, which was surprising. It is suspected that they are leftover payments for the prior year's graduation.

The board has asked us to add an additional iGo parking spot in the lot south of the school, which will add approximately \$200 per month in revenue.

Ms MUÑOZ moved to approve the internal accounts as presented for December, seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.

FOIA AND OMA OFFICER

Mr NEWMAN moved to appoint himself as the FOIA and OMA compliance officer for the LSC, seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.

PARENT VACANCY

There is currently a parent vacancy on the LSC. Interested parties are invited to apply. The position will be advertised on the school's website.

PRINCIPAL EVALUATION

In the past, the LSC did not follow the principal evaluation calendar. Instead, the process was compressed into about 2 meetings. Prior goals consisted of having a certain number of in-classroom observations per year, and no other goals over and above those which come from CPS and the network.

The council discussed very generally what kind of goals should be set, and the relationship of those goals and CPS's goals. It was agreed that we should have a more in-depth discussion of the goals led by a 3rd party facilitator. Ms PAVICHEVICH suggested that she could get a facilitator from the network, although Mr COHEN felt strongly, with substantial agreement from the rest of the council, that the facilitator should not be affiliated with CPS or the network, so as to be sure that the facilitator could focus on the opinions of the LSC members alone, without any bias towards standard CPS policy or affiliation.

Ms D'ALESSIO suggested that the council inquire with Natalie Allen, who is a facilitator for the Parent's Advisory Council at Amundsen, about facilitating the principal evaluation discussion at our next meeting.

Ms MUÑOZ moved that the council contact Ms Allen regarding her availability to facilitate a discussion, ideally at the next regularly scheduled LSC meeting, seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr MUÑOZ moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms D'ALESSIO. The motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:24pm.

ACTION ITEMS

- Mr Williams will provide the detail required to support the October internal accounts.
- The LSC parent vacancy will be advertised on the school website and the marquee sign.