

LSC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Held in the Library, Amundsen HS



AMUNDSEN
Local School Council

The meeting convened at 6:04pm.

In attendance: CHINCHILLA [arrived 6:24pm], DANAHER, DAVILA, GORSKI, HERMANSON [appointed 6:50pm], MAHONEY [resigned 6:45pm], NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, REED, VEGA
Not attending: MARTEL, PEDERSEN, SADIQ, ZEHREN

Mr PEDERSEN has been called to active duty and has resigned from the LSC effective 13 September 2017. Ms MAHONEY is leaving Chicago and resigned from the LSC during this meeting. Her seat was subsequently filled by Ms HERMANSON.

These changes created one teacher vacancy.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

INTERNAL ACCOUNTS AND SPENDING

The internal accounts are now managed by CPS, and are not available yet.

Fee payments were completed by about 51% of students, with the largest fraction made by Freshmen. This is much larger than in previous years; we have never been over 50% at this time of year. 82 students have also made partial payments. We've reopened the online payment portal, which was taken offline during registration, to prevent the school website back end from being overloaded with payment requests.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

We asked freshman parents to do early registration this year, and we learned we should have an "express" line for parents who already have all the paperwork filled out and just need to pay fees.

Our new construction is not actually completed, due to a variety of delays. The auditorium was delayed for lead paint mitigation steps. Windows and doors are still on order. A number of other punch list items remain, although every space is minimally functional.

Dyson has given us another \$50K grant, which is a significant investment, more than they are giving to other partner schools in CPS. We are beginning an international exchange program, and we will be creating a coding and robotics curriculum called the

“Dyson Design and Innovations Program” that is being developed independently at Amundsen, not by CPS.

We have started a Parent Newsletter by email, which was specifically identified by the LSC.

Some construction and delivery delays have also impacted the installation and distribution of locks and combinations for lockers.

Enrollment looks like it will end up at about 1220. This is above both the 1183 original projection that we appealed, and even larger than the 1210 that was the “compromise” projection after our appeal, so we will be getting additional money from CPS. This includes an approximately 11% increase in enrollment from within the “GROW Community” area. Attrition is also looking to be much lower going forward, so we anticipate our overall enrollment will continue to increase slowly in future years.

We’ll be hosting an open house on November 4th, and we’ll be hosting the “Hidden Gems” fair on September 24th.

Mr PEDERSEN is a Coast Guard reservist and has been called up to active duty, today was his last day at Amundsen, and he will be gone for the current year. This will necessitate some changes in staff assignments for this year. We will proceed with filling his seat on the LSC with an advisory poll of the faculty as soon as possible. AP Ortiz will take over Mr PEDERSEN’s role with the PAC for the year.

Teacher leadership is going to be our focus this year. We are going to work to encourage the faculty to give each other constructive feedback, and not just be “nice”.

Attendance is running about 97% currently.

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Ms MAHONEY announced her resignation at this meeting, creating a vacancy for the LSC chair.

Mr NEWMAN moved to appoint Ms DAVILA as the LSC Chair, seconded by Mr REED. The motion passed unanimously.

This created a vacancy in the position of Vice Chair.

Mr NEWMAN moved to appoint Mr MARTEL as the LSC Vice Chair, seconded by Ms DAVILA. The motion passed unanimously.

The LSC opened the floor for nominations to fill the parent vacancy. Jill O’Shea, Carol Hermanson, and Steve Yee were nominated.

Mr NEWMAN moved to appoint Ms HERMANSON to a parent seat on the LSC, seconded by Ms GORSKI. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm.