

Waters Elementary School
LSC minutes for Nov 11, 2019

JR called to order 4:03

Quorum:

Parent Reps: Kirstin Bacon (KB), Chris Brannan (CB), Greg Foster-Rice (GFR), Jason Rieger (JR), Erica Smith (ES), Lydia Schmidt (LS)

Community Reps: Zach Koutsky (ZK – late 6:55), -Lauren Niedespol (LN)

Teacher Rep: Rielly Wall (RW), ~~Annette Booczko (AB)~~, Ms. Ballasch (B)

Principal: Titia Kipp (TK)

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda, ES, CB Seconded. All in favor

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes from the Sept Meeting as amended by Greg (corrected name spellings and corrected some typos), CB motion, ZK second.

Welcome to New Staff:

TK: Welcome to our new staff Ms. Arachie, Mr. Archer, Ms. Famisan, Ms. Hayes, Ms. Pornea, and Ms. Walsh and to Ms. Ballasch as the teacher rep on the LSC.

LS – I have a question about Ms. Ballasch as the new teacher rep and whether this follows LSC regulations.

TK – a new election was held in October, Ms. Ballasch was the only one to put in her name, we conducted an election and welcomed her. Her nomination has been sent to the OLSCR and BOE. She does not yet have voting privileges until we receive follow up from the BOE. Ms. Booczko resigned as LSC rep as you all know.

LS – We did not know about the vacancy before today.

JR – What about the non-teacher staff position?

TK – the non-teacher staff position has been officially recognized as vacant and we will be conducting an election for that seat.

Public Comment

Please note: This period is dedicated for questions/comments that directly pertain to the 3 functions of the LSC: Budget, CIWP, and Principal Evaluation. Other questions/comments will be directed to administration (general school operations), teachers (specific classroom/grade level questions), or WatersToday (fundraising and volunteering).

Mary Gallery: How will the new contract with the CTU affect staffing at Waters Elementary. Will it require us to hire new positions?

TK – We will not lose any positions. But there are questions about how it will affect non-teacher staffing (such as case manager). The new contract still has not been fully ratified by both CTU and the BOE so we are playing a waiting game. We already have a full-time nurse because we have a student who requires it per their IEP/504

Special Presentation:

Approval of Arts Fundraiser from Ms. Vecchionni (AV)

AV: Artsonia digital portfolio allows for gift shop. This brings \$500 to the art room per year because the art room receives 20% of each purchase of mugs, calendars, etc... decorated with the students' artwork. Hoping we can continue this fundraiser.

ES – I move to approve the Artsonia fundraiser. JR seconded. All approve. The motion passes.

AV : second fundraiser is a School Art Note Card Fundraiser. It builds on the Andy Warhol curriculum, since Warhol sent homemade cards back and forth to his mother. This also ties into instilling gratitude in the students. These are high quality prints taken from high quality scanning, which would be done here on campus.

JR: Is there initial cost or outlay?

AV: None.

CB: I motion to approve the KidsKards fundraiser, ES seconds. All approve. The motion passes.

Healthy Schools Report from Mr. Kurz (BK)

BK: We are close to achieving a Healthy Schools badge. In the past review, we were missing a few points but working on making them up. Those include Our Wellness Team and Parent, student, partner participation, which we have addressed this year. The main thing we had been missing was

LS – How are we tracking what happens in the classroom to ensure that the 30 minutes/week in the classroom is met?

BK – Through Calm Classroom, by doing 6 minutes/day

TK – We don't have everyone trained yet but we are in the process of ensuring everyone is trained

LS – Do we know when that will happen?

TK – By end of calendar year

CB – what is the benefit of the school to meeting the Healthy School criteria?

BK – people who are looking at the school on the CPS Report card look for the level of the school status (1 or 1+) and the various badges.

KB – To Ms. Kipp, I'm not questioning this initiative but it seems to have come at the expense of the digital media curriculum and instructor (so we could have a second gym teacher). Will we be able to keep the second gym teacher after the new addition? And can the new building also accommodate bringing back digital media?

TK – The PPLC is having conversations with the staff about the curriculum and how we will accommodate the newly available space.

CB – do we self-certify?
BK – Yes, but CPS asks for evidence.

Special presentation Alex Enerson

See PDF of PPT

General timeline: Will work through December, and then during Spring Break and Wednesdays with Garden workers in the Spring.

AE – First order of business is collecting pieces. Find 3 loads of stumps. Clearing the site. We will preserve some of the plantings. Construction will proceed feature by feature. The big build will be during Spring Break (because insurance doesn't cover working around kids). Hoping to get most if not all of it done before end of school year. RW – what about maintenance?

AE – I'm building for 10 years for the hardscaping. There's a full year warranty on any anchors and other issues, and will make necessary changes. Using the most rot resistant wood around. Warranty doesn't cover additions, but it

Special Presentation: Roosevelt High School

Vice Principal Dr. Eric Steinmiller

Just got the SQRP and have two years in a row of good standing rankings.

See PDF of PPT

More equitable educational opportunities by offering dual language opportunities. Partnered with Truman and UIC for Dual Credit. So they get chemistry credit from UIC. Partner with Loyola University for the Dual Language programs
Upcoming Open Houses – Sat Nov. 23, 10am-12pm

Old Business

None

New Business

a. Checks to approve:

Flocabulary one year subscription . \$ 2500.00 Check # 2436 (comes from student fees)

We Got Game , \$1800.00. Check number # 2439 (comes from Athletic Fees)

ES – I move to approve the check, ZK seconds. All approve. The motion passes.

Reports

a. Principal Report (10 min)

TK - Pleased to report that we maintained our Level 1+ rating through a difficult school year. Extremely proud of staff at Waters who kept the course during those challenges. We will have deeper data dives with the staff this week as we look forward to how to plan for areas that we still have opportunities for growth. We are green and light green in all areas except for one area in yellow.

See Principal Report for more details.

Parking situation still needs to be resolved.

2nd floor girls sinks were fixed.

Having a conversation with Mr. Kurz about ordering basketball hoops from the summer sports camp program in internal accounts. We are still determining which hoop to purchase.

Clarification from last meeting -- Students are indeed allowed to play in the garden during recess and we have communicated that to the RAS staff who monitor recess.

b. BAC (5 min)

LS: what is the Instructional Support Lead listed in the Principal Report?

TK – she is a new hire from Mr. Segovia at the Network, not at Waters

Nilsa Alvarez – this is towards building TBE and TPI instruction.

LS – this was one of the things we weren't meeting the needs of the TBE

Nilsa Alvarez – This is helping us to meet the needs of ESL students

c. Budget (10 min)

ES – I've just reviewed the internal accounts, and what we have across revenue generating accounts is around \$100,000. We need to have budget subcommittee meeting to subtract the costs of those programs from the revenue to determine remaining amounts.

In our subcommittee meeting we want to address the clerk position, 5th coach for RAS recess support.

TK – We do have a 5th coach and we have funds that were allocated for that 5th position. It has been helpful with the mass of children on the fields

KB – is the area in the garden around the fire pit available to students now?

TK – yes, and the RAS supervisor now is aware and will allow children to play around the firepit during recess

d. Facilities and Grounds (5 min)

JR – not much to report. We are pursuing the Nature Playspace. We heard back from subcontractors on the addition Cement caissons are in the ground. Structural steel erection is forthcoming. Working on establishing a meeting with CPS on finishes presentation.

ZK – we are following up on achieving a regular weekly meeting w Construction Crew

E. CIWP

RW - Will have an update at January meeting

f. Principal Evaluation

KB/LS – request for observations at the school

TK – the LSC cannot do something called “observations” of teachers but if it were called “site visit” that might work out.

KN/LS – The observations are not of the teachers, but to observe your role as their principal. We will continue this dialogue as we seek the best possible mechanisms to receive the most accurate feedback.

g. PPLC

Nothing additional

h. Fine Arts

LS – still waiting on a meeting

TK – I have reached out to central office to get a response. Everyone has been affected by the work stoppage.

LS – I’m excited to hear more from Fine Arts teachers about their PD

TK – I will work with Fine Arts team to schedule a meeting.

LS – Last time I checked there was not a music syllabus on the website.

i. Wellness Committee

11. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session

12. Public Comment

KB Moves to adjourn

RW Second

Unanimous.

List of action Items before next meeting (chief agent for instigating action is underlined):

Leftover from November meeting:

- Facilities & Grounds will set up meeting with PBC/CPS Construction (Evan Smith) to get more information about exterior treatment of the building and other details to share with community. Will also share at LSC meetings.
- Facilities & Grounds will try to get a weekly meeting with Construction Crew to provide updated information to the community
- Principal Evaluation Committee will establish schedule for more regular meetings to spread the tasks over the course of the school year.
- PPLC will meet and provide update at next meeting
- TK and Fine Arts Committee will determine schedule of meetings

New Action Items:

- TK – ensure Ms. Ballasch’s appointment to LSC has been approved by OLSCR so she can be a full voting member
- TK and non-teaching staff – hold a nomination and election process (if necessary) for the non-teaching staff position on the LSC
- TK and CIWP members on LSC – analyze the school performance data (Spring 2019 NWEA MAP scores etc) and present a synopsis to the LSC.

Action Items for future meetings

- TK and CIWP Committee – CIWP report for January Meeting.