Waters Elementary School

LSC minutes for June 23, 2020

JR called to order 4:33pm

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), ~~Lauren Niedespol (LN)~~

Teacher Rep: Rielly Wall (RW), Ms. Ballasch (MB)

Non-Teacher Rep: Mark Williams (MW)

Principal: Titia Kipp (TK)

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve the agenda, CB, MW Seconded. All in favor. No abstentions or nays.

Approval of Minutes:

No minutes to approve because of the turnaround time since last meeting. All three June minutes from June 9, 16, and 23 will be approved at the July 7 organizational meeting.

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).*

No comments.

New Business

1. Resolve use of remaining 8th grade fundraising funds

JR – Ms. Kipp will explain briefly.

TK – With the 8th grade fundraising, and the cancellation of the class trip, there’s money that remains in the fundraising accounts that was originally earmarked for the 8th graders and their school trip. In addition, we are getting a reimbursement for the Odyssey Lake Michigan Cruise. That reimbursement will take time (about $4,000). We were going to talk about what to do with the fundraising money. However, since the Odyssey money hasn’t been returned yet. But that is student fee money that will go back directly to the students. Some ideas might be to divide the money among the students (~$100) or leave in the account for future years, and there’s other options. I just want you to be thinking about it. Since the money was fundraised for the 8th grade class…maybe the 8th graders could decide what to do with those funds. Maybe it’s a gift to the school….or maybe a survey of the 8th graders to see how the money is reimbursed.

JR – we don’t have to decide now, but could we decide by July 7 or the August meeting. My idea is to have fully fleshed out options by the next meeting.

TK – the Odyssey money is part of the graduation fee so that goes back automatically to the parents. It’s not the discussion bc it goes to the parents.

GFR – I did a straw poll of my 8th grader, and I wonder if we might be able to have some of the teachers work with the graduating 8th graders to help determine the fate of this money. Given that Mr. Raman has been teaching them about financial responsibility as part of recent lesson plans this seems like it would reinforce those lessons.

JR – Greg and Ms. Kipp can talk about some of these ideas outside a meeting in advance of the next meeting in July.

TK – great.

GFR – Do we need to figure out what to spend on some of the extra expenditures.

TK – Given the Odyssey money coming back, we don’t need to make a decision or vote on paying for those extra expenditures other than the next items on our agenda.

b. Approve checks:

TK - These checks have not been cut yet. These are all invoices for which we need to cut checks. The smaller items from graduation (like the balloon arch) were under $1000 so they’ve been paid already out of the appropriate accounts. The checks that we are requesting to approve are on the agenda.

JR – before I read them off for approval, do I have any questions?

ES – I want to clarify one thing…these checks are separate from the reimbursement of the Odyssey luncheon.

LS – this is unrelated to the fundraising? And we’ve received the items and an invoice and now we are writing a check?

TK – Yes and yes

JR – [reads off checks]

i. Herff Jones 8 th grade Cap and Gowns $ 1428.00

ii. Class Act 8 th grade Autograph Books, Ribbons, diploma covers $ 1904.77

iii. Blue Star Custom 8 th grade TShirts and Hoodies $ 1405.25

iv. Blue Star Custom Kinder TShirts $ 1105.00

JR - I move that we approve the checks as stated, TK seconds. All approved, no abstentions, no Nays.

KB – Are these standard, annual expenditures? If so, can we start a list of annual purchases that we could pre-approve? We had discussed that for some annual purchases we could make it a little more stream-lined for Ms. Kipp. Could we get a list of annual purchases at the beginning of the year and pre-approve things? If there’s something out of the ordinary, then we could discuss them as necessary.

TK – I agree. And central office has also said that the new threshold could be up to $2,000. So certainly, at the end of the year these are annual expenses. There are no reasons I and the budget subcommittee couldn’t have a conversation about that for presenting to the council.

JR – I move that we move to executive session for community rep. Then we will go into a second executive session for the finalization of Principal Evaluation before returning to public session to vote on the PEOT in public session and vote on the community rep in public session.

Enter Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn Executive Session and re-enter public session, CB seconds.

Reilly Wall has had to leave the meeting, otherwise attendance is the same.

Old Business

a. Approve final Principal Evaluation Scores and comments to be entered in the

PEOT as determined in executive session

JR – I move to approve the scores and comments to be entered in the PEOT as determined in executive session by the LSC. CB second.

Call to a vote. I will go down the list of names.

Kirstin Bacon (KB) - Aye

Chris Brannan (CB) - Aye

Greg Foster-Rice (GFR) -Aye

Jason Rieger (JR) - Aye

Erica Smith (ES) - Aye

Lydia Schmidt (LS) -Aye

Zach Koutsky (ZK) - Aye

Ms. Ballasch (MB) - Aye

Mr. Williams (MW) - Aye

Unanimous all approve.

b. Select community member to fill vacant Community Representative LSC position

JR – I move to approve the recommendation from the LSC to appoint Ari Frede as the community member for the remainder of the interim 2018-2020 term. ES seconds.

Call to a vote. I will go down the list of names.

Kirstin Bacon (KB) - Aye

Chris Brannan (CB) - Aye

Greg Foster-Rice (GFR) -Aye

Jason Rieger (JR) - Aye

Erica Smith (ES) - Aye

Lydia Schmidt (LS) -Aye

Zach Koutsky (ZK) - Aye

Ms. Ballasch (MB) - Aye

Mr. Williams (MW) - Aye

Titia Kipp (TK) - Aye

All in favor, unanimous.

Motion to adjourn, KB, second by LS. Unanimous.

Adjournment

Action Steps:

Leftover from June 6, 2020:

1. Nature Playspace – meet with CPS BOE, determine way to move forward
2. Identify plans for Fall and communicate with community
3. Establish some type of roundtable or other format to try to bring community together to hear concerns and figure out ways to move forward
4. Train teachers on new SEL program and communicate new SEL program to parents before school year begins so they can reinforce the home/school connection in Fall
5. Confirm that Kinder Application documents are working on our website and communicate about verifying documentation with applicants {presumably this has been addressed?]

New action steps from this meeting:

1. Discuss a mechanism for the 8th grade teachers to work with the graduating 8th graders on how to disburse the remaining funds that were raised and leftover from the cancelled end of year activities. (GFR as 8th grade parent and TK as principal to work with Seth Raman and other 8th grade teachers).
2. Establish a list of annual, recurring expenditures so we can plan for them in the budget (8th grade graduation, kinder graduation, etc..).