

Thomas J. Waters
Local School Council meeting
Wednesday, August 22, 2012
Approved Minutes

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:05 pm.
 - a. Attendees: LSC: William Baker, Mariuxi Benitez, Titia Crespo, Greg Foster-Rice, Jacqueline Gaines, Linda Garcia, Carla Griffin, Hugo Siguenza, Matthew Weinstock, Christine Weldon
 - b. Excused absence: Terri Versace
 - c. Public: Nilsa Alvarez, assistant principal, Waters Elementary; Josefina Nava, parent; Erica Lauf, parent
 - d. Foster-Rice explained the meeting procedures – sign in sheet for public, public comment period
- II. Approval of the agenda: Motioned by Weldon, seconded by Gaines. Agenda approved unanimously.
- III. Approval of July meeting minutes: Motioned by Weldon, seconded by Gaines. Minutes approved unanimously.
- IV. Announcements
 - a. Foster-Rice provided an update on LSC training. The Office of LSC Relations is willing to conduct additional training sessions at Waters.
 - b. Foster-Rice announced the dates and times of the open house – 9/19 for grades 1-4; 9/20 for grades 5-8. Crespo noted that Pre-K and kindergarten conducted meet and greets in the classroom in August.
- V. Correspondence: Waters Today requested time on the September meeting agenda to discuss fundraising for the school year.
- VI. Reports
 - a. Chair: Foster-Rice noted that the Waters website has been updated with current LSC roster. The site administrator is currently looking at a new content management system which will, among other things, enable the council secretary to post minutes to the site.
 - b. Principal: Crespo said the staff and teachers were focused on getting the classrooms ready for the first day of school. She was also finalizing hirings. She noted that a few grade levels have three classes, which is something to watch in terms of space utilization, resources and staffing. Waters was given a slot for a new school-wide teaching position as part of the initial CPS-CTU negotiations over the extended school day. The position will be filled by a science teacher to compliment the new investments in science labs (see below). Crespo provided an update on the move toward departmentalized teaching starting minimally in 3rd grade and fully in 4th. She also discussed CPS' shift in a new student testing system.
- VII. Public comments:

- a. Eria Lauf, parent: Was pleased to hear that the new position will be a science teacher. Asked a question about bolstering the math program. Assistant Principal Alvarez commented that departmentalized approach should better enable teachers to focus on core subjects.

VIII. Old Business:

- a. Crespo had three requests for a transfer of discretionary funds
 - i. Science initiative: \$5,570.79 for storage cabinets, two mobile units/carts to go into classrooms, microscope charging unit, two demonstration tables (these supplies will complement purchases already made by Waters Today). Weinstock motioned, Foster-Rice seconded; approved unanimously.
 - ii. Funds required to cover custodian work on Sundays when Lincoln Square Presbyterian rents out the gym for services. The funds come from rent paid by the church. Weldon motioned, Garcia seconded; approved unanimously.
 - iii. Allocation of funds to pay for staff at the Early Bird Program. Garcia motioned, Siguenza seconded, approved unanimously.

IX. Communications

- a. Foster-Rice said that notice of LSC meetings will be posted in advance on Waters & Community Facebook page.
- b. The council is making an attempt to go green and will utilize a projector at meetings in order to cut down on paper.

X. Committees

- a. Professional Personnel Leadership Committee, mandated by state law. Griffin and Garcia automatically serve and can appoint up to seven certified teachers. PPLC reports back to the LSC.
- b. Foster-Rice suggested four additional council committees: budget, CIWP (continuous improvement work plan), principal evaluation, communications. Weldon motioned to create these committees, Gaines seconded; approved unanimously.
 - i. Budget: Weinstock motioned to appoint Weldon, Crespo and Siguenza; Foster-Rice seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - ii. CIWP: Foster-Rice motioned to appoint Foster-Rice, Baker and Gaines; Siguenza seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - iii. Principal evaluation: Foster-Rice motioned to appoint Weinstock, Griffin and Benitez; Weldon seconded. Approved unanimously.
 - iv. Communications: Weldon motioned to appoint Versace, Foster-Rice and Weinstock. Siguenza seconded. Approved unanimously.

XI. Adjournment: Foster-Rice motioned to adjourn, Weldon seconded. Approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.