

Local School Council Meeting
Monday, February 18, 2013, 6-7:30pm
Waters Elementary, 4540 North Campbell

1. Call Meeting to order 6:07
2. Roll Call
 - a. Present: William Baker, Titia Crespo, Greg Foster-Rice, Jacqueline Gaines, Carla Griffin, Terri Versace, Matthew Weinstock, Christine Weldon
 - b. Excused absences: Mariuxi Benitez, Linda Garcia, Hugo Siguenza
 - c. Public attendees: Erica Lauf, parent; Radhik Gordon, parent; Josh Kalov, community; Vicki Nissim, literacy coach
3. Approval of Agenda. Weldon motioned to amend the agenda and move the budget committee to new business. Weinstock seconded. Approved.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting Weldon motioned, Foster-Rice seconded. Approved
5. Announcements/Introduction of Guests
 - a. Literacy coach Vikci Nissim presented on Common Core Standards:
 - 1) Nissim noted that there are three focus areas this year: writing, literacy, higher order thinking skills. The literacy program begins in kindergarten with recognition that those grade levels are predictors for reading comprehension in middle and secondary school. Teachers sit together at beginning of quarter to review vocabulary and determine which words need to be added to teaching for next 10 weeks. Academic vocabulary has to be done vertically across the school. Teachers meet in administrator-directed sessions once a week. Nissim provides input in those meetings.
 - b. Public Comments (two minutes each)
 - 1) Radhik mentioned willingness to be part of parent-teacher task force to look at informing parents about vocabulary standards.
6. Correspondence – None
7. Reports
 - a. Chairperson
 - 1) Thanked everyone for involvement in the Valentine’s Day Dance.
 - 2) Thanked the LSC for work on the committees.
 - 3) Referenced email from Pete Lekie, who has offered short promotional DVDs on the Mighty Acorn Ecology Program. These would offer insight into teaching programs at Waters. 1st graders will be doing performance of Snake and the Turtle; Lekie asked if they could perform at an upcoming LSC meeting.
 - 4) LSC advisory board is up for renewal looking for nominations.
 - 5) Foster-Rice reported on the commission on school utilization: four schools on the CPS list for closure are in the Ravenswood-Ridge

boundary. Waters should only be affected if it is classified as a welcoming school.

- b. Principal: See attachment.
- c. Committees
 - 1) Communications: Versace noted that the unified calendar is up; it can be synced to mobile devices. Versace is working with Crespo to ensure that there is a principal's message each week in the Green Notes.
 - 2) CIWP: Foster-Rice: the committee is working with CPS to figure out glitches in the Excel spreadsheet, which is causing an error in Waters' CIWP.
 - 3) PPLC: Griffin: the committee met and discussed ways to handle testing at the beginning of the school year. One option is to test during the summer so when kids return to school teachers can dive right into their curriculum. The committee discussed tutoring programs and ways to help ELS students. An email has been established to keep teachers abreast of PPLC activities. The committee will meet face to face during half days and professional development days.
 - 4) Principal Evaluation – scoring by LSC members will be at March 18 meeting Executive Session.
- 8. Public Comments (two minutes each)
 - a. Question regarding health teacher: Crespo responded that it's a position that hasn't filled due to the new CPS-CTU contract. Few of the people who applied for the job meet the qualifications, but the CPS-CTU contract requires that displaced teachers get the first opportunity to apply for vacant positions. Waters was granted the position for the 2012-13 school year, but it is not clear if it will be awarded next year.
 - b. Nissim: There will be a family reading night in April or May as well as a young author's night. She also mentioned that some Waters students have been published in Students Express.
- 9. Old Business: Foster-Rice
 - a. High school boundary – CPS hopes to hold a public forum in March.
 - b. Field house – IIT will begin moving ahead with zoning and code searches this spring. IIT is trying to get approved as CPS vendor. LSC and Waters Today need to begin brainstorming on fundraising issues.
 - c. Crespo: teachers voted last spring to move the school start time, but there needs to be a more comprehensive approach to studying the idea and it must get further approval from CPS officials.
- 10. New Business
 - a. Budget see attachment
 - 1) Motion on MacBooks (see attachment): motion: Weinstock, Griffin second.
 - 1. Discussion: Crespo: the committee favors MacBooks based on durability and compatibility. Current laptops date back to 2006. Baker questioned if it made more sense to get tablets

instead. Crespo and Weldon said that laptops could be utilized immediately while curriculum apps for tablets are still being developed. Griffin noted that laptops would boost ability to integrate computer learning/visual arts into class room settings. Vote: Approved unanimously.

- 2) Café Daily 5 (see attachment): Weldon moved, Gaines seconded. Approved
- 3) Church and early bird revenue for a new scoreboard: Weldon moved, Griffin seconded. Approved.

11. Executive Session (if necessary) none.

12. Adjournment: Weldon motioned, Baker seconded. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:45.

Principal Report
2/18/13
LSC Meeting

School Leadership

Principal Directed grade level team meetings- collaborating weekly with individual grade levels to address student data, educational initiatives ie. CCSS etc.
Conducted interviews and hired new first grade teacher
Hire 3rd first grade teacher and officially welcomed to our staff

Instruction

Review weekly lesson plans
Review weekly grade level team meeting minutes-address any concerns, issues
Discuss student data to drive differentiated instruction at the grade level meetings
Discuss resources and supplemental instructional materials to further develop curriculum
Classroom Observations completed 2nd round of PAT's and 10 Tenured staff

Student Centered Learning Environment

Continue to set high academic standards for students through conferencing with students
Field trips as appropriate to enhance classroom instructional content
Basketball program for 5-8 girls and boys
Approved 3-4th grade girls basketball team practice activity
Chess Club
Develop and implemented Waters tutoring program 1-8

Professional Development and Human Resource Management

Continue staff observations in accordance with Board rules, policies and procedures, and collective Bargaining agreements
Weekly Principal Directed PD on Tuesdays with all teaching staff
Review MOY data
Ensure completion of MOY assessment within the time frame

Parent and Community Outreach

Encourage teacher/parent communication ie. Green Notes, emails, phone calls, folders and other tools as needed
Continue to work parent volunteer coordinator to assist with parent services for school
Meets with LSC subcommittee to communicate activities at the school
Parent English classes T and Th
Worked with Coat Angels-local organization to provide outerwear for students in need

School Management and Daily Operations

Communicate daily with staff to ensure coverage for all classroom needs
Communicate daily with Engineer and Lunchroom manager for all building and food needs including but not limited to cleanliness of the building adequate food supply etc.
Continues to upgrade technology needs and provide support to staff as needed
Budget tied directly to school instructional needs- done yearly
Continues to seek grant opportunities to offset additional cost to school to enhance school programming needs-Google RFP, LOWES, Studio space development

Interpersonal Effectiveness

Meet regularly with teachers, students and parents to resolve concerns
Meet with teachers, parents and community members to discuss new initiatives for school
Continues to encourage teachers and parent communication via phone, email, letters and meetings
Hold meetings to inform teachers, parents and community of new initiatives in the school and district
Maintains professionalism and confidential information

Waters LSC Budget Sub Committee

Minutes for Meeting held Monday, February 11th at 9:00 AM

1. Call Meeting to order

9:02 AM

2. Roll Call

Titia Crespo present

Christine Weldon present

Hugo “ Danny” Siguenza absent due to work conflict

Megan Wade absent due to conflict

3. Approval of Agenda

Agenda approved, moved by Mrs. Crespo, all approved.

4. Discussion of current financial situation – budget vs. expenditures

Reviewed current overall financials, CPS is conducting an audit of internal accounts at Waters near the end of February. The Budget subcommittee will receive a copy of the audit report.

We sent a request for an update on the Science Lab cabinets/install. The cost is slightly higher than expected and CPS is working through how much they are able to cover. Target install of one science lab during Spring Break.

5. Review of Financial decisions for next LSC meeting

Funds are available in a miscellaneous charges account under the 225 account (25781.225.57940.119021.000703.2013 for \$98,625.38, and 25781.225.57940.119020.000703.2013 for \$3,930.00) totaling \$102,555.38. The laptops in the school are over 5-6 years old and have been unable to handle the current software used in the classroom and have repeatedly frozen during testing. The administration would like two sets of 35 laptops to be purchased for classroom use. During the meeting we investigated options (Apple is the computer of choice given the teachers experience with better longevity and experience with the applications). We discussed options with the technology procurement office at CPS and with Mrs. Termini.

A. We recommend purchasing 70 of the MacBook Pro 13 inch laptops (two sets of 35). These laptops have a 2.5 GHz Intel Dual-Core i5 processor, 4GB of RAM; 500 GB and 7 hour battery (important for classroom use). They come with the CPS Image, 3

year warranty, and associated software. The cost is \$1447 each, which includes the warranty and the CPS software. We request a budget transfer of 101,290 for purchase of laptops.

Other Financial decisions:

B. The CAFÉ Daily 5 method has been used within teacher workshops taught by Ms. Booczko. Ms. Booczko and Ms. Nissim need further training to provide additional internal professional development of the concepts. The Daily 5 are: Read to Self, Work on Writing, Read to Someone, Listen to Reading, and Word Work. We request a check approval for \$1180 to pay for registration for Ms. Booczko and Ms. Nissim to attend further training on this approach.

C. The sports teams at Waters continue to expand and have created a wonderful environment for the children to further their teamwork skills and confidence in themselves. We request a transfer from 124 funds (from church rental revenue and the early birds program) for \$6000 for the scoreboard. Cost of the scoreboard is \$5000 and installation is an additional \$1000 (electrical requirements). Funds requested: \$5,891.35 from 25731.124.579.111001.002239.2013 and the remainder from 25731.124.579.111001.000121.2013.

6. Initial discussion of long term financial needs for school: equipment, technology, books, furniture, etc.

We started a discussion of additional needs. Mrs. Crespo has been strongly encouraging teachers to post their needs on Donor's Choose. This has been an effective method to achieve funding for teacher's needs through support from both our community and other sources. Separately, Waters Today would like a list of items that they may choose to directly fundraise for. We will have a detailed discussion of ALL future needs at an upcoming budget subcommittee and will invite Waters Today to join, here are a few for now:

- i. Smart boards for all of the classrooms that do not have them (approximately \$1500 per class for board and projector, we need to confirm cost with purchasing) – needed for 12 classrooms at a cost of approximately \$18,000. Some of the smart boards in Waters were purchased with Book Fair money. We will check with Lori Roberts and Jean Ternovits to ask if the spring book fair may cover the cost of one or two smart boards.

- ii. Portable PA system – Cost TBD. The drama class would benefit from PA capabilities and the budget sub-committee has now requested an estimate of what this would cost.

- iii. Teachers do not have laptops assigned by CPS, or the few that do have laptops that are several years old. All teachers are expected to do a significant amount of

their grading and administrative work online and they ALL need laptops that are functional. To address all of the teachers that have such responsibilities we need 35 laptops at a cost of approximately \$51,000.

iv. While we have iPads, we are short of one classroom worth of iPads that would benefit classroom instruction at Waters. Using CPS purchasing costs, for 35 iPads it would cost approximately \$21,000, possibly a bit more based on the bundle we choose.

v. Other future needs – we are working through other needs and will document a 3-5 year needs plan that will be updated twice year moving forward.

7. Plan for budget review in spring (tentative as depends on release of budget from board)

When dates are announced for the 2013-14 budget, we will schedule a budget sub-committee meeting and will also work with Mrs. Crespo to hold a community budget meeting.

8. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:46 am.