

Waters Elementary School  
Local School Council Meeting  
November 8, 2016

- I. Erica Smith called the meeting to order at 4:06
- II. Matthew Weinstock motioned to amend the agenda to allow for a special student presentation. Vanessa Caleb Herman seconded. Motion approved. Weinstock motioned to approve the amended agenda. Darian Martyniuk seconded. Amended agenda approved.
- III. Roll call: Greg Foster Rice, Jacequeline Gaines, Vanessa Caleb Herman, Titia Crespo, Sean Rabiola, Erica Smith, Matthew Weinstock, Jashua Kalov, Annettee Boozcko, John Gaytan. Excused absence: Julie Artis.
- IV. Gaines motioned to approve the October minutes. Foster Rice seconded. Minutes approved.
- V. Student presentation: Three eighth grade students said that they noticed some bullying and heard foul language on the field and playground, mainly during recess time. The students expressed their concerns to their teacher and then had a meeting with Mrs. Crespo. In collaboration with Mrs. Crespo, the students came up with the idea of creating positive messages and spaces around the school, which they had seen at other schools. The students also suggested that there be consequences for ongoing occurrences of bullying, including taking away recess privileges. Mrs. Crespo noted that the administration and faculty will reinforce ROAR principles with the student body. The LSC universally praised the eighth graders for taking the initiative on this matter.
- VI. Announcements: Caleb Herman said that the Manor Diverter project, which redirected traffic at Wilson, Manor and Mozart was ending. Smith noted that the Waters LSC was invited to attend a GROW event and Foster Rice would provide an update. Ms. Smith briefed the council on a meeting that she attended, along with Ms. Crespo and Ms. Alvarez at Lakeview High School. Chief Education Officer Janice Jackson was the featured speaker. She presented on the CPS Vision for 2016-2019 and described three major commitments for the system: academic progress, financial stability and integrity. A copy of the vision can be at <http://www.cps.edu/Pages/AboutCPS.aspx>.
- VII. Reports
  - a. Principal:
    - i. Crespo said that the school had just completed a successful Spirit Week that included considerable “buzz” around the Cubs World Series victory.
    - ii. She that she’ll be hosting a coffee Nov. 21 with Ms. Pavichevich, principal at Amundsen. The focus is on middle schoolers and to give them and parents exposure to the school. Crespo said that she’d like to see parents consider Amundsen as a viable alternative to selective enrollment schools.
    - iii. During the election, Waters served as a polling station. Crespo ensured that adequate security was on hand.
    - iv. Waters staff are visiting McPherson classrooms where they will be observing co-teaching. This is where diverse learning and general education teachers co-teach in one classroom. These are blended classrooms – general education students and diverse learners (those with individual education plans). Waters

staff will observe these classrooms, debrief afterwards and develop plans to begin implementing a more inclusive classroom at Waters.

- v. Waters received budget funds for diverse learning, but central office said that the budget is locked and Waters is not currently able to access the funds.
  - vi. Crespo noted that the new CEO at Swedish Covenant Hospital is looking for ways to partner with the community.
  - vii. Weinstock asked if the Waters LSC could revisit the idea of petitioning the school board to redistrict homes west of the river into the Amundsen boundary. Foster Rice noted that the LSC has twice raised this with the school board. Kalov said he would look into the school board's timing for requesting a school action.
- VIII. Budget: Kalov said that he is still refining the new budget template, including adding information from internal accounts.
- IX. Communications: Smith attended the BAC meeting and is trying to connect it with people to help translate school materials.
- a. She will continue to build those connections. She said that the LSC will be promoting that Waters is once again a lottery school.
  - b. A letter is being circulated to all LSCs on special education funding. Smith promised to send it to LSC members if they wanted to sign on.
- X. CIWP: No report
- XI. PPLC: Rabiola reported on the partnership with McPherson. They will discuss strategies and share resources for working more effectively with diverse learners.
- XII. Principal Evaluation: Gaines said that the committee has developed a new template. The committee will meet with Crespo quarterly, which should improve the process for the annual review.
- XIII. Old business: None
- XIV. New business: Foster Rice attended a GROW Community Forum, formerly Grow 47. The group did a series of focus groups over the summer with parents. A key takeaway was figuring out ways to promote neighborhood high schools.
- XV. Public comments: None
- XVI. Foster Rice motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rabiola seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:51.