

Waters Elementary School
Local School Council Meeting
September 13, 2016

- I. Erica Smith called the meeting to order at 4:02
- II. Greg Foster-Rice motioned to approve the agenda. Vanessa Caleb Herman seconded. Agenda approved unanimously
- III. Roll call: Julie Artis, Vanessa Caleb Herman, Greg Foster-Rice, Darian Martyniuk, Erica Smith, Matthew Weinstock, Jacequeline Gaines, Jashua Kalov, Annette Boozcko, Sean Rabiola. Excused absence: John Gaytan
- IV. Ms. Herman motioned to approve the minutes from July 20. Ms. Boozcko seconded. Approve unanimously
- V. Special presentation: Amy Vecchioni presented on STEAM – science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics. Mrs. Vecchioni shared a video on [Caine's arcade](#) which served as a primer on Waters hosting a cardboard challenge, Oct. 1, from 9-12. The goal is to bring creativity back to learning. Initiatives like the cardboard challenge allow students to create and pursue their own ideas, Mrs. Vecchioni said. STEAM has been incorporated in several parts of Waters' CIWP, she added, including in rigorous tasks, assessments, professional development and school culture.
- VI. Correspondence: None
- VII. Reports
 - a. Principal report: As of Sept. 13, Waters had 633 students enrolled in school. That is 21 short of central office's 654 projected enrollment, Ms. Crespo said. She noted that funds accounting for the shortage under student based budgeting were set aside in a contingency fund. Ms. Crespo said that she was still waiting to hear about an appeal for increased funding for diverse learner enrollment. Waters was projected to have four teachers and two teaching assistants. The budget fell \$100,000 short of funding those positions. Ms. Crespo hopes for a response to her appeal by the end of September. Ms. Crespo said that the budget committee is developing a new template for presenting budget updates at LSC meetings. The electronic payment system is now active and available for student fees. Ms. Gaines requested that Ms. Crespo provide an update on student fee payments at the next LSC meeting. Ms. Crespo noted that the entire school is adopting Wildcats ROAR – responsibility, organized, accountable and respectful.
 - b. Budget: Ms. Crespo noted that based on SBB funding and current enrollment, Waters could lose about \$95,000, leaving roughly \$35,000 in contingency. She said that teachers and administrators are looking at areas that may need increased spending and could be the recipient of contingency dollars, including the language arts curriculum, which is 10 years old. A new language arts curriculum could cost nearly \$100,000. Central office has worked out a 6-year payment plan with the vendor. Mr. Weinstock suggested that the administration develop a series of options for updating the language arts curriculum, one of which could be the aforementioned option.
 - c. Communications: Ms. Smith said that the communications team is working to get student update forms out to parents. She also said that there is a new team of volunteers to do Spanish translation. Ms. Herman notified the LSC of an upcoming plan

in the 33rd Ward to test a so-called traffic diverter at Wilson and Manor. She said it could result in increased traffic on Wilson east of the river. Ms. Crespo said she would reach out to Alderman Pawar about a police presence at Wilson and Rockwell during morning drop off time.

- d. CIWP: No update
 - e. PPLC: Mr. Rabiola said that teachers went through professional development upon returning to work after the summer break. Teachers are developing a new, consistent grading scale and looking to incorporate STEAM across curriculums. Teachers have reviewed ROAR with their classrooms and are getting it rolled out to create a consistent school experience.
 - f. Principal evaluation: None
- VIII. Public comment: Multiple parents asked about the language arts program, including wondering what teachers are doing if the current program is 10 years old. Ms. Boozcko said that teachers augment the curriculum regularly with various tools, including the Daily 5. Another parent asked about sports programs. Ms. Crespo said that fall sports are underway. For winter sports, there will be no cuts. Games will be held on Saturdays at local high schools.
- IX. New business: Ms. Alvarez presented on a fundraising proposal for 7th and 8th graders. Seventh graders go to Springfield, for a cost of \$230; eighth graders to Washington, D.C., for a cost of \$900. Students are looking to hold a variety of fundraisers, including popcorn sales, school dance, Big Fork Sausage sale, Barnes & Noble booksale, Pi Day, restaurant night, and raffle tickets. Ms. Gaines motioned to approve the fundraisers. Mr. Rabiola seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- X. Mr. Rabiola motioned to approve expenditures. Mr. Martyniuk seconded. Approved.
- XI. Mr. Weinstock motioned to adjourn. Ms. Herman seconded. Approved. Meeting adjourned.