

# Local School Council Meeting

Monday, March 18, 2013

Waters Elementary, 4540 North Campbell

1. Call Meeting to order – Foster Rice called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM
2. Roll Call: William Baker, Mariuxi Benitez, Titia Crespo, Greg Foster-Rice, Jacqueline Gaines, Linda Garcia, Carla Griffin, Hugo Siguenza, Terri Versace, Matthew Weinstock, Christine Weldon
  - a. Public attendees: Mr. Raman, teacher; Emily Haite, parent, Ms. Ballasch, teacher; Ms. Cavey, teacher; Christopher Austerman, student teacher; Julie Moore, parent; Carol Schelnsker, community; Amiee Schnabel, parent; Peter Moor, parent; Geri Weinstock, parent
3. Approval of Agenda: Weldon motioned, Versace seconded, approved.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting: Weldon motioned, Versace, seconded, approved.
5. Announcements/Introduction of Guests
  - a. Middle School staff to present the Middle School Curriculum (Grades 7-8). Mr. Raman, Ms. Ballasch and Ms. Cavey presented.
    - 1) Mr. Raman discussed social studies for 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders. He noted that writing is integrated into social studies. A big focus is persuasive writing. The middle school team also started executive functioning, which teaches students time management skills, how to organize and prepare their work and, importantly, how to plan.
    - 2) Ballasch noted that her father went to school at Waters. In 7<sup>th</sup> grade science – life science is the focus, which gets the prepared for their first year of high school; 8<sup>th</sup> grade is physics. There is a lot of writing and reflecting in their science notebooks. Ballasch works closely with Mr. Leki on ecology program. In 8<sup>th</sup> grade, students study the Great Lakes and the watershed. There are a partnerships w/Friends of the Parks and Friends of the River, trips to Montrose Harbor. In spring, officials from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources come out and teach the students about aquatic life.
    - 3) Cavey: 8<sup>th</sup> grade goes to D.C. This quarter, reading persuasive articles and persuasive poetry. Use connected math series. Next year will be offering algebra for high school credit. 8<sup>th</sup> graders work with Mr. Leki in the garden.
    - 4) Gustavo Prado: works with all of the teachers to make sure special education is incorporated into the curriculum. Will work with children who need to be pulled out and get extra attention. He is also the chess coach. The team participates in a lot of tournaments around the city.

6. Ben Felton, from CPS office of innovation and incubation discussed the proposal to change the Waters high school boundary – to include Ravenswood Manor in the Amundsen district. Felton said that the proposal “made all the sense in the world” to the planning team. They’ve analyzed the data and don’t see any reason to prevent such a change. It will likely go to the board at its June meeting.
7. Public Comments (two minutes each): None.
8. Correspondence: None.
9. Reports
  - a. Chairperson
    - 1) No report
  - b. Principal
    - 1) See attached.
  - c. Committees
    - 1) Communications: working on website.
    - 2) Budget: Weldon: surveyed all teachers, will share it at April meeting; Crespo: magnet cluster status will not be cut this year. Doesn’t yet know yet how state dollars are going to look. One change though is that maintenance is now being rolled into the school budget.
    - 3) CIWP: Foster Rice: the committee received a corrected version/formatting of the CIWP from central office.
    - 4) PPLC: put out some information on how teachers would use the new laptops, will report on that at the April meeting.
    - 5) Principal Evaluation: none.
10. Public Comments (two minutes each)
11. Old Business
  - a. Discretionary Funds Approval (if any)
    - 1) Approval request for check for candy fundraiser in the fall. Weinstock motioned, Gaines seconded, approved.
12. Additional public comments (two minutes each)
13. New Business: None
14. Executive Session – closed session by LSC to discuss Principal Evaluation
  - a. Foster Rice motioned, Versace seconded, approved. Executive session started at 5:40.
  - b. Baker moved to end executive session, Weldon seconded. Executive session ended at 7:55.
15. Adjournment, Foster Rice motioned, Siguenza seconded, approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:55.

**3/18/13**  
**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.  
Met with Network Staff to review school goals  
Met with Chief for school goals  
Review CIWP with focus groups in content areas to address progress  
Met with Budget committee to review school budget and discuss needs for school  
All initiatives directly impact school vision and mission

***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 3<sup>rd</sup> round of PAT's and 10 Tenured staff  
Meet with Technology coordinator to address tech concerns/issues in building  
Tutoring program  
Tech program  
Encourage student field trips that impact classroom instruction  
Might Acorns winter trips  
Completed and complied with NAEP , MAP, DIBELS,TRC and ISAT deadlines

***Student Centered Learning Environment***

Continue to set high academic standards for students through teacher conferencing with students  
Chess Club, Basketball programs for 3-8<sup>th</sup> grade students  
Mathletes  
Develop and implemented Waters tutoring program 1-8  
Hosted 2<sup>nd</sup> annual family Valentine Dance  
Hosted school dance for Valentine's Day  
Robert Crown Health Education Initiative  
Celebrated Chinese New Year  
100 day celebration  
Held evacuation drills in compliance with Board rules  
Follow Student Code of Conduct regarding student discipline

***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 with staff  
Focus Teams  
Vertical curriculum alignment and Horizontal alignment discussions  
Identified Arts Liason for school  
Attended REACH training provided by network office-Principal and Assistant Principal  
Attend monthly Principal meetings  
Meet with Board officials regarding school utilization  
Meet with Bd of Ed officials regarding school hours change request  
Met with vendors regarding new programs ie. Digitize all forms, keyboarding program, Waters app

***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 as needed to communicate activities at the school  
Parent English classes T and Th  
University partnerships-DePaul, Northwestern, National Louis, Northeastern, Loyola, Columbia  
Albany Park Community Center-Between Friends  
Organ Wise Guys-University of Chicago  
Swedish Covenant

Participating in Earth Day Guinness World Record Book  
Attend monthly School Tour or designee  
Attend monthly BAC meeting or designee  
Submit Healthy Schools Certification document  
Set up Kindergarten early registration for April 8  
Working with local resources to identify potential kinder students  
Working with outside organization to set up programs for children ie. Girl Scouts, Girls on the Run  
Right At School  
Early Birds

### ***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  
Continue to seek out support and resources for IIT project  
Include monthly Internal Accounts and Board of Ed budget at each LSC meeting

### ***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  
Continue to encourage teachers and parent communication via phone, email, letters and meetings  
Send emails regularly to staff to notify of all and any concerns, upcoming events, etc.  
Hold meetings to inform teachers, parents and community of new initiatives in the school and district  
Maintains professionalism and confidential information