

Local School Council Meeting
Tuesday, November 19, 2013; 6pm-8pm
Waters Elementary
Minutes

1. Foster-Rice called meeting to order at 6:15PM
2. Roll call: Present: Julie Moore, Terri Versace, Linda Garcia, Carla Griffin, Greg Foster-Rice, Jacqueline Gaines, Bill Baker, Titia Crespo, Hugo Siguenza
3. Absent: Matthew Weinstock, Mariuxi Benitez
4. MAPP Assessment Presentation
 - a. Ms. Cavi presented on the new MAPP assessment. What defines growth? Depends on where student is when takes exam, test is adaptive. Target growth is set specifically for each student.
 - b. Crespo: Test is no longer low-stakes/optional. ISAT is on its way out; not sure how ISAT data will be factored in. MAPP is the new test being considered for promotion.
 - c. Baker: New cut scores are much lower than last year – The bar has been raised for what qualifies “meets” and “exceeds” standards. If you adjust the scores, for the same standards as last year, we have shown growth in reading and math. This is in line with where we want to be, as far as the CIWP.
 - d. Crespo: This is system-wide. All have been impacted by the change.
 - e. Request: Could we have a list of the type of assessment and when it is given, and for what purpose?
5. CIWP Presentation
 - a. Foster-Rice: The CIWP is the new name for the improvement plan (used to be called SIPAAA). There is a CIWP team, coordinated by Ms. Crespo. We used the current CIWP for one year, and in August 2013 we met with the CIWP team and made some revisions. The revisions have been sent to the teachers for feedback. We will meet again sometime after this meeting to incorporate feedback from the public -- Hopefully sometime in January or shortly after we will vote on the new CIWP.
 - b. Baker: Emphasis is on test-scores from CPS, but this is also place for us to communicate our additional priorities. Test scores and attendance rates are two required metrics.
 - i. Self-evaluation piece includes leadership, environment, etc.
 - ii. Strategic priorities: what we deem important to place our resources behind
 - iii. Must be revised annually, but can be tweaked throughout the year. Seeking input from everyone.
 - iv. Goals for this year: to make our school’s character more evident (fine arts, ecology) and tied to metrics.
 - c. Revised CIWP:
 - i. Ms Crespo: Presented revised the mission statement
 - ii. Maintained same self-evaluation score
 - iii. Updated Strategic Priorities and milestones
 1. Ms. Cavi presented on Priority 1: Math – vertical planning, implementation of algebra program, math instructors attending professional development
 2. Ms. Nissim presented on Priority 2: Balanced Literacy – reading and writing workshop in place K-5, potential to go up to 8, new version

of writer workshop is aligned to common core. Daily 5 and Literacy Café models in K-2, faculty attending workshops on close reading on complex texts, emphasis on vocabulary

3. Mr. King presented on Priority 3: Science – increase in hands-on inquiry-based learning across grade levels, aligned to next generation science standards, incorporate non-fiction texts into units; further integration of ecology program into science units
 4. Ms. Vecchioni presented on Priority 4 – integrating arts into core curriculum. Each quarter an arts-integration hand-out is distributed to teachers to get information on their big ideas. Art department plans units to align with curriculum.
 5. Ms. Termini presented on Priority 5 – integrating technology into curriculum and using critical thinking/problem solving skills when using technology; utilize iPads, macbook pros, chromebooks incorporated into classroom learning, for research and for writing; technology committee coordinates with teachers; students in grades 5-8 have CPS google accounts;
- iv. Foster-Rice: CIWP guides how we allocate resources and how we encourage collaboration across curriculum. Thank you to the teachers for all of their work on this.
- v. Questions/feedback from public:
1. Math priority says it will be data-based, rigorous, and challenging. Where do you get data?
 - a. Ms. Cavi – within the MAPP, tool breaks down score for each student, we can use that data to pull specific strategies that students aren't mastering.
 - b. Ms. Nissim – for primary students we have additional formative data
 - c. Ms. Crespo – Mr. Leatherwood also has teacher-created data
 2. Concern around stress for students around test. How can we create more positive environment around it?
 - a. Ms. Soto explained general sense of positivity for faculty and administration around assessments
 3. Would like to see State Standards around Social and Emotional learning integrated into CIWP as well
 - a. Ms. Crespo: have been working with school social worker on developing forum for recognizing positive behaviors
 4. Math priority is only one that does not mention integration into other subjects
 5. Where can we find the most recent version of CIWP?
 - a. One on cps.edu is broken excel sheet. In August we re-typed the revised one. As soon as we are given go-ahead from network to post it on our waterselementary.org, it will be up.
6. Parent Portal
- a. Versace did demo on parent portal and how to access. Parents can get pin #s from Ms. Alvarez.

7. Correspondence
 - a. Link to the lunch room menu is not working – will be fixed tomorrow (11/20)
8. Chair-person report skipped in interest of time
9. Principal report will be emailed in interest of time
10. Committees Reports
 - a. Communications: updates to website: menus will be up tomorrow, communication guidelines (who to contact for what) will be up soon
 - b. Budget – will be presented in December
 - c. PPLC – have been meeting regularly, no report
 - d. Principal Evaluation – We will have an executive session at December meeting to discuss teacher feedback; Working on a date for a community forum
11. Public Comments
 - a. Compliment on parents, administration, faculty, community on foresight on placing emphasis on learning over testing
12. Old Business – none
13. New Business
 - a. Waters Today
 - i. Please join at Himmel's on Thursday for Pledge Party
 - ii. December 7th art fair
 - iii. Waters Today is in need of a treasurer for the remainder of school year
 - b. Foster-Rice made motion to approve fundraising: popcorn sales for 8th grade trip to Washington DC. Crespo seconded. 7 in favor. None opposed. Motion passes
14. Meeting adjourned 8PM