



Burley Local School Council: Meeting Minutes for February 15th, 2017

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6.06pm.

Roll Call

Present: Robert Blitstein, Mike Mitchell, Catherine Plocher, Melissa Schroeder, Laurie P Barry, Rebecca Armatis-Furr, Noelle Peacock, Esme Borrero, Liz Wiedegreen, Marissa J Maples

Absent: Carolyn Skibba

Approval of Minutes

The council reviewed January LSC minutes. Melissa Schroeder moved to approve the January minutes. Esme Borrero seconded. All voted in favor.

Technology Report

Ms Plocher presented the technology report and discussed the “If you learned here” project. Ms. Skibba runs this project with a teacher-librarian in Hinsdale, and our 6th graders are participating. Students from 35 schools around the world will write an eBook and engage in video-based Q&A. The project develops student curiosity, empathy, and global awareness. In line with the continuous updating of technology, new iPads for 5th grade were purchased in January and will be arriving shortly.

Principal Report

Principal Plocher reported the school news and updates.

- Career day was a success with a well rounded group of presenters.
- Report cards were sent home on Monday Feb 13th
- The basketball season is well underway.
- Human reproductive classes are now finishing up for 5th-8th grade. 7th-8th have a few more sessions
- The winter party is coming up on March 3rd
- Book Bash is taking place on February 28th
- Mayor Emmanuel paid a special visit and taught a civics class to an 8th grade class.
- Teachers as Readers in full swing with the teachers having some really good discussions surrounding the “Social Studies That Sticks” text.
- PARCC window testing is being pulled to an earlier date this year and will begin on March 20th
- Explore More is now scheduled for May 5th
- Awaiting news from the pollinator grant to help secure funding for a pollination habitat
- Solar energy grant proposal due February 16th



- Currently looking at additional grant options to help assist professional development for the teachers.

Monthly Financials

In light of the mid-year budget cuts, Ms. Plocher provided an overview of how Burley has been affected, and in particular the \$7000 cut we have been subjected to. Ms Plocher provided information as to how CPS made the cuts and explained how our level of cut was different to other CPS schools. Ms Plocher highlighted how all of our negatives are cleared from the budget, and how she will be discussing the areas that potentially need assistance with FOB and the PTA in the coming weeks. As she plans for the end of year, Ms Plocher is also looking at possibly making some movements within the internal accounts and seeking to identify areas where funds can move within the set parameters.

Closing of Meeting¹

Liz Wiedegreen motioned to adjourn at 7.27pm, Bob Blitzstein seconded. All voted in favor.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday March 15th at 6pm.