



Burley Local School Council Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2022

Call to Order:

Elliot Ransom (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

Roll Call (Listed Alphabetically):

Present: Nick Anderson, Teresa Merritt, Rob Moon, Jessy Newman, Catherine Plocher, Elliot Ransom, Mary Renouard, Sidney Reed, Mike Valitchka

Absent: Bob Blitstein, Carolyn Skibba

Approval of Minutes:

The Council reviewed the February 2022 LSC minutes prior to the start of the meeting. Rob Moon motioned to approve the minutes and Mike Valitchka seconded. All were in favor.

LSC Candidate Forum

LSC candidates were called to read their personal statements in the following order:

- Rhiannon Brown - parent representative (not present)
- Michael Valitchka - parent representative
- Sidney Reed - teacher representative
- Rob Moon - community representative
- Nick Anderson - parent representative
- Nikolas Stamas - parent representative (not present)
- Bob Blitstein - community representative (not present)
- Carolyn Skibba - teacher representative (not present)
- Ryan Griffin - parent representative
- Elliot Ransom - parent representative
- Jessica Macaluso - parent representative

Technology Report

One of our goals is around literacy and building stamina and a love of reading within school and the home-community areas as well. We have discussed big and little aspects, such as reading logs, technology projects, etc. to build a love of reading that goes beyond accountability and Ms. Skibba has a variety of ideas for technology integration - more to come next month. All technology has been purchased and will arrive imminently.

Principal's Report



Updates. Ms. Plocher shared updates including the following:

- Burley will receive next year's budget on Friday and the budget will be due Tuesday, April 19.
- Eighth graders received first round of high school offers.
- FOB Winter Party is Friday
- Citywide science fair is Friday
- Completed the Teachers as Readers book and are moving on to the next book.
- Responsive Classroom is a pedagogical approach that focuses on proactive and reactive classroom engagement, structures, and behavior management. Prior to the pandemic, nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of staff attended a 4-day in-person training to learn the approach. Since then, Burley has had new staff join and experienced a lot of pandemic-related changes, so staff are signed up again for a summer training to reinforce and reinvigorate this approach.
- Basketball season is wrapping up, with both the boys and girls teams making it to the playoffs.
- IAR testing will be the last week of March.
- The Burley Student Council is hosting a NCAA bracket challenge, with all funds going to the Ukraine Children's Relief Fund.
- Classrooms are also doing book March Madness Book brackets.
- Most of the newly purchased math curriculum has arrived.
- The whole school walk-a-thon will return this year - this is the only event each year where fundraising is done by the students.
- Ms. Plocher wrote a grant to the Lakeview/Roscoe Village Chamber of Commerce to support a spring event - something to involve the community, potentially.
- Graduation information is coming soon - dates are scheduled, events are being planned, and final coordination is underway.
- Waiting on the CPS calendar - assuming this will come after the next CPS board meeting
- Ms. Plocher also wrote a garden grant to support the Burley gardens and surrounding area.
- Book fair is going to happen in the art space in the field house. Ms. Plocher shared that the school will need moving materials, metal ramps, etc. to be able to get the books into the field house. The book fair will be the week after spring break. Anderson Books will do the book fair this year and they will also send an author for the book bash. Ms. Plocher is looking into the fundraising mechanism for the book fair now that we don't have an official PTA/PTO.



- 8th grade camping trip will be in April and 7th grade camping trip will be in May at Camp Duncan - more information is forthcoming. Middle school is also going to Springfield this year in June.
- Boys and girls track is getting up and running. Unfortunately, we were not able to find a boys volleyball coach.

CIWP. This year, the district is not requiring schools to start from scratch on their CIWP (due to the pandemic). Burley has been focusing on many of their goals, making revisions along the way. We will cover the revisions and final CIWP during the May meeting.

Financial Report. Ms. Plocher provided an overview of Burley's financials, including the large purchases that were approved previously, and upcoming purchases (e.g., coach stipends, the new marquee). Ms. Plocher requested a transfer from internal accounts to the 124 line for upcoming graduation events (total of \$5,294). The council voted and approved two transfers. The council first approved a transfer of \$4,837.43 from the internal graduation mandatory fee line. Mike Valitchka motioned to approve the transfer and Teresa Merrit seconded; all approved. The council approved a second transfer of \$788.27 from the graduation optional fees line. Teresa Merrit motioned to approve the transfer and Mike Valitchka seconded; all approved.

Mike Valitchka asked whether the marquee was a purchase we needed to make this year with the impending budget shortfall. Ms. Plocher explained the safety concerns for our building engineer and additional benefits of having an electronic marquee.

Following the principal report, the Council asked questions. Jessy Newman asked questions about the Responsive Classroom training and the potential for more district funding from the district's American Rescue Plan funding. Nick Anderson asked a question about the LSC composition and having a student rep (Ms. Plocher has advertised but there hasn't been student interest.)

Public Comment

Members of the public made statements and asked questions including:

- Food being served in the cafeteria
- Changes to high school selective enrollment process
- Summer programming
- Preschool for All

Chair Report and Next Meeting



Due to the budget timeline, we need to move the April meeting to either Monday, April 18th. Mike Valitchka motioned to move the meeting, Teresa Merrit seconded and all approved. **The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 18, 2022, at 6:00pm.**

The LSC election is on April 20, 2022 (during report card pickup day).

Close of Meeting

Mike Valitchka motioned to close the meeting at 7:49m. Teresa Merrit seconded and all were in favor.