



Burley Local School Council Meeting Minutes November 11, 2020

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm.

Roll Call:

Present: Stephen Soltanzadeh, Catherine Plocher, Mary Renouard, Amy Walsh, Bob Blitstein, Laurie Barry, Carolyn Skibba, Rob Moon, Liz Wiedegreen, Teresa Merritt

Absent: Rebecca Armatis-Furr, Liz Wiedegreen

Approval of Minutes:

The Council reviewed the October 2020 LSC minutes. Laurie Barry motioned to approve the minutes. Bob Blitstein seconded. All voted in favor. Minutes approved.

Technology Report:

Ms. Skibba discussed how the staff is working hard to make sure the e-learning experience is being reflective and successfully translating the Burley experience online. The staff has had lots of meetings about that and learning ways to support each other.

Ms. Plocher said there have been no major challenges about technology, but more life problems with logging on. Burley has a very high level of engagement with students e-learning. All students are accounted for. They are working on maintaining consistent attendance with a handful of students which is similar to in-person learning.

Some Burley teachers are teaching from the building. They have the option to work from home or from school, but they have to commit to the day. Each teacher has to pass the screeners before they enter the building. Clerks, administration, custodians, and engineers are allowed to be in the building.

Digital citizenship has always been part of the curriculum. Ms. Skibba and the staff are going to continue to remind the students to be good digital citizens.

Principal's Report:

The PTA just wrapped up 3 events:

- virtual book fair
- pumpkin carving/decorating contest
- Burley merchandise sale



The end of the first quarter was Thursday, November 5. CPS will mail home report cards probably the end of this week or early next week.

Parent/Teacher conferences are Wednesday, November 18. There is no school Wednesday. Conferences run from 11am - 6pm.

In-person LSC elections are Wednesday, November 18 in the lunchroom from 7am - 7pm. Parents and guardians received their ballots in the mail. Many are mailing in their ballots or dropping them off. If you vote in person you will be screened like everyone who enters a CPS building (temperature checks, social distancing, masks, etc.)

There was a room parent meeting November 10. Ms. Plocher was happy to report every class has a room parent.

Ms. Plocher gave a shout out to Ms. Anderson-Flynn. She is putting together a virtual Holiday Hoopla. This will be pre-recorded videos with students in 4 - 8th grade.

Financial Report

There are no transfers to approve.

Ms. Plocher has made minor purchases mostly for remote learning kits for Art, STEAM, PE, etc. Most supplies were from in-house. Shout out to Melissa Schroeder who donated all plastic bags for each kit. Most items were funded through FOB.

Administration has spent money on postage. When students move to new schools Burley has to mail their records to the new school so a few hundred dollars has been spent on postage.

Ms. Plocher has paid the clerk Carmen for her extended day as she helped with remote learning kits distribution and other items.

Money has come in and gone out for virtual field trips. Third grade went to the Chicago History Museum to learn about the Chicago fire. Kindergarten went on a science focused field trip recently.

CTU supply lines are going down because teachers are purchasing items for instruction. Teachers are contractually given \$250/teacher by the District for supplies. As teachers purchase those items they submit receipts.



Chair Report:

The Chairman reminded everyone about LSC elections on November 18 and the next meeting is December 16.

Public Comment

One parent shared how much she loves Family SeeSaw. This is the app K-4 uses to upload work, images, drawings recordings, etc.

Ms. Skibba asked if she should be working on a non-teaching staff representative for LSC and how we are addressing that gap. The Chairman suggested we wait until the election is over next week and the new Council can appoint someone in January. The bigger issue is working to identify someone who would like to do it. There are seven people who qualify as non-teaching representatives; Burley has 5 paraprofessionals, a clerk and security guard. Ms. Pocher thinks people are much more willing to do meetings virtually. 6pm in-person meetings can be a challenge for some people.

What's the word of going back to school?

Ms. Plocher said there is no word right now. Once there is a vaccine it will take time to get it and we don't know how long that will be. Ms. Plocher pointed out the numbers are going up. Illinois is the #5 state for increased death rates. The Chicago Archdiocese sent out a message that they are going remote for two weeks after winter break. CPS is making sure buildings are ready, people are working around the clock to improve ventilation systems. These buildings are old, they weren't built for airborne viruses. CPS is focused and wants to return when they can, but there are a lot of factors in play. Ms. Plocher is anticipating after the holidays we're in a better place and a vaccine might be available, community spread might be over to see where we are. Ms. Plocher was not speaking for CPS, but knows it's complicated with the high number of students that are in CPS.

Ms. Plocher received a report after HVAC systems were tested. She is working to identify which rooms they have to work on, which need return vents, etc.

Closing of meeting

Bob Blitstein motioned to adjourn the meeting. Teresa Merritt seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:49.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is Wednesday, December 16 11 at 6pm.