



Burley Local School Council Meeting Minutes July 15, 2020

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:11 pm.

Roll Call:

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

Absent: Teresa Merritt, Blanca Fernandez, Rebecca Armatis-Furr, Laurie Barry

Approval of Minutes:

The Council reviewed the June 2020 LSC minutes. Mary Renouard motioned to approve the minutes. Bob Blitstein seconded. All voted in favor.

Principal Report:

Both the 8th grade graduation and kindergarten celebration had a nice virtual celebration. Ms. Plocher expressed appreciation and gratitude for everyone involved in 8th grade graduation - special shout out to Ms Skibba - for all the work she put into the virtual part. All the teachers chipped in and it was amazing. Graduates felt special and honored.

Report cards went out. All report cards were processed and emailed from the central office. Ms. Plocher reminded parents to check their students grades in the Aspen system.

CPS hasn't announced a plan for next year. The staff is chomping at the bit and hoping to have more information by the end of month. Trying to put forethought into what different options could be. The Burley administration already put a basic survey out to the Burley staff. It was helpful in pattern finding and hear thoughts on what worked, what didn't work, suggestions, ideas, etc. Ms. Plocher said what we were able to pull off to go to remote learning was great, not perfect, there are things to improve upon, but overall our teachers and school did an amazing job. Ms. Plocher gave a shout out to Ms. Nash and Ms. Skibba with all the work they did to set up the remote learning. The Burley survey has been open for a week - there have been responses from 153 families (about 1/3 of the parent population).

Basic highlights:



If in-person schooling is available about 1/3 of population 55% said yes, 2% said no, 43% maybe or not sure.

If there is a hybrid model many families recommend family unit/siblings attend the same day.

Ms. Plocher ensured the school is prepared to follow CDC guidelines.

Ms. Plocher wanted to spread the word to complete the survey, get a holistic view of the school.

As of July 15, 2020, there were 46 registered for the incoming Kindergarten class.

Burley had at least 98% participation for online learning. There were about 23 students that chronically needed to be contacted. The administration recommended about 10 students for summer school which is a very low number throughout the district.

Public Comment:

One parent spoke up and reiterated his concern for safety for the kids in the classroom. He also asked if the administration foresees any budgetary concerns with physical barriers or physical limitations with the school. He pointed out there are only two sets of washrooms so for washing hands there is no way to get all students to the bathroom to a few sinks. Ms. Plocher said CPS is working on plastic shields and brainstorming many ideas; staggered entry/exit, staggered start/end times, temperature check everyone, calculating how many thermometers can we get — CPS is working on paper masks and other supplies. She said once a plan is shared then she'll know what Burley will supplement.

Another parent asked who can we put the pressure on - what do we do to come up with a plan before the end of August? Ms. Plocher said the teachers union is putting out a plan. She knows the concern of every parent - the number one thing is safety of staff members. The union is focused on their members not being a statistic due to Covid. CPS hasn't released their framework yet, CTU released their framework. As administration Ms. Plocher and her team talk about different things that could be implemented through multiple lenses, not just the children, but our staff, school and lead in a way that follows CDC guidelines.

The parent asked again what can we do as parents to speak up and have a voice at the table? Ms. Plocher suggested a cohesive voice in the process, it's not going to happen



unless we all can come together, come to LSC, answer surveys. 99% of the conversation is about health and safety. Everyone wants to be back. Ms. Plocher said no one got into teaching to be a remote teacher.

Closed session:

There was a closed session from 7:13 - 8:52 CT for the Council to approve the score for the principal evaluation.

Reopened session:

There was a motion to approve the principal evaluation scores. Liz Wiedegreen motions to approve. Bob Blitstein seconded. All voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:53pm CT.