

PETERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 4:30PM Virtual Meeting

LSC Members Present: Maleeha Mubashiruddin, Jenise Celestin, Kathleen Hurley, Yalil Nieves, Chuck Deters, Carmen Rodriguez, John Sullivan-Knoff, Jeremy Elston, Erik Juhl, Reginald Newton, Sarah Colella

LSC Members Absent:

Public Present: Catherine Korda, Carmen Karnuth, Sabiha Vohra, Sarah Smith, Chrissy Palmerlee, Megan Fair, Jeffrey Oliveira, Sara Skaggs

Call to Order: 4:35 PM **Adjournment:** 6:37 PM **Next Meeting:** October 21, 5:30 PM

1. Call to Order: Maleeha called the meeting to order at 4:35 PM
2. Explanation of Local School Council Meetings
3. Vote to approve agenda
 - a. Maleeha moves to approve agenda, Jeremy seconds. Agenda is approved.
4. Vote to Approve Previous Meeting minutes
 - a. June 9th Meeting Minutes
 - i. Maleeha moves to approve minutes, Carmen seconds. Minutes are approved.
 - b. July 7th Meeting Minutes
 - i. Maleeha moves to approve minutes, Jeremy seconds. Minutes are approved.
5. Public Comment
 - a. Letter from Sara Ahmad Myers (posted below)
 - i. Un-enrolling their children from Peterson until they can get a vaccine or CPS allows a virtual option.

Reports

1. PAC Report (Parent Advisory Council)
 - a. Catherine Korda – Not official meeting this year, but had a parent meeting.
 - i. More than 50 parents came to learn about getting involved at Peterson.
 - ii. Gave away a lot of books / steam kits to families that could use them.
2. BAC Report (Bilingual Advisory Committee)
3. Principal's Report
 - a. Finances
 - i. Internal Accounts
 1. Upgrade classrooms. Painting and sanding floors.
 - a. 210, 220, 222, 122, 116
 2. Renovation to the main office.

3. Middle School Project – Peace for Peterson
4. All student fees are to be paid online going forward.
- ii. Bucket Expenditure
 1. OST Grant
 - a. -\$19450.96
 - i. Over spent teacher bucket.
 - ii. Expenditures were spent before funds were released.
 - iii. Waiting to see the impact of new disbursement from OST grant and clear any negative then if need be.
 2. New Buckets
 - a. Made from Moving Forward Together Grant.
 - b. Used to pay staff for family reengagement and professional development / leadership teams and hiring miscellaneous employees.
 3. Budget Transfers
 - a. Transferring \$5,139.00 from 24941.332.53405.119015.430266-2022 to 24941.332.51330.290001.430266.2022 to clear negative.
 - b. Transferring \$2520.17 from 24941.332.53305.119015.430266.2022 to 24941.332.51330.290001.430266.2022 to clear negative.
 4. Field Funds
 - a. \$625,901.00 left.
 - b. Deadline is Dec 31, 2024.
 - c. State guidelines are more stringent than the TIF funds.
 - d. Working with CPS and department of planning to figure this out.
 5. Field Work
 - a. Moving boulders had not occurred yet.
 6. Abatement
 - a. 225 is finished and teachers / students have moved back into the room.
 7. Enrollment
 - a. 861 students
 - i. Opened more KG seats, enrollment is low relative to previous years.
 - ii. Will not lose funding on the 20th day if we're below 867.
 - iii. Families are moving in and out of the area, but KG is not compulsory and it's possible that families are just not enrolling their children.
 8. Attendance
 - a. Goal is 96%, currently 95.4%.

- b. Moving students to quarantine is really impacting attendance.
- 9. CIWP
 - a. Eric Staswick – Climate and Culture team launched SEL school wide engagements.
 - b. Grade level pairings (cross grade pairings).
 - c. Student Voice Committees
 - i. What problems do we see as students and how do we solve those?
- 10. Star360 Assessment (3-8 grades)
 - a. Short reading and math assessment at beginning, middle, end of year.
 - b. K-2 will still use NWEA.
- 11. Family and Community Engagement
 - a. SchoolCNXT
 - i. It's the means of digital communication with families.
 - ii. 81% of families are connected.
 - iii. 56% of guardians are connected.
 - b. Meet and Greets and Pastries with the Principal.
 - c. BAC is looking for new members. Meeting happening on September 23.
- 12. Outdoor Lunch Pilot
 - a. Need Level 1 volunteers to make it possible, minimum 5-6.
 - i. They also need to be vaccinated.
 - b. It would be for home lunch students only.
- 13. Hiring
 - a. Assistant Principal
 - i. Hopefully announce in about a month.
 - b. School Assistant
 - c. Miscellaneous Employee
 - d. SpEd Teacher, 4th/5th
 - e. Two SECAS
- 14. Band and Choir
 - a. Band is allowed to play again this year.
 - b. Choir will also be able to rehearse after school.
 - i. With masks and space out in the auditorium.
 - ii. Take a break every 45 min for air to circulate.
- 15. Crossing Guard.
 - a. Yalil and Catherine Korda are using all options to find a crossing guard.
- 4. PPLC Report (Professional Personnel Leadership Committee)
- 5. Public Comment

Old Business

1. STEAM Updates
2. Field Updates

New Business

1. LSC Committees for 2021-2022 School Year
 - a. By-Laws Committee
 - i. John, Reggie, Jeremy
 - b. Parent Engagement
 - i. Sarah, Jenise, Maleeha
 - c. Principal Evaluation
 - i. Sarah, Erik, Carmen
 - d. Reconvene in November meeting to discuss committees.
2. LSC Opening - One Parent Rep and one Non-Teacher Staff Rep
3. Virtual LSC vs. In person LSC Meetings
4. Discussion and Vote on Transfer of Funds
 - a. Maleeha moves to the transfer the funds as previously stated. Jenise seconds. Motion carries.
5. Discussion and Vote on Fundraising
 - a. Walk-A-Thon to replace Dance-A-Thon this year so it can be outside.
 - b. No constraints to fundraising.
6. Public Comment
7. Adjournment
 - a. Maleeha adjourned at 6:37 PM

Letter from Sarah Ahmad-Myers

Dated 8/4/2021 at 10:28AM by email "Dear Respected Members of Peterson's Local School Council, Please read this letter at the next LSC meeting and enter it into the minutes. Given the recent surges of the Delta variant of Covid 19, my husband and I have made the difficult decision to temporarily withdraw our two children from Mary Gage Peterson Elementary School (until they are old enough to be inoculated against Covid 19). For this school year, they will be enrolled in an online academy.

We were hoping the Board of Education for Chicago Public Schools would make a remote option available for grades k-8 (since the vaccine is only approved for people 12 and older). Thank you for taking the time to read our statement. We hope to rejoin the Peterson community in 2022. Have a safe and healthy school year. Sincerely, Sarah Ahmad-Myers