

PETERSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2019, 6:30pm STEM Room

Local School Council Members Present: Jenise Celestin, Leslie Combs, Martha Hindaileh, Karla Holcomb, Kathleen Hurley, Lloy Johnston, Kate Kane, Maleeha Mubashiruddin, Karla Rivera (by phone)

Local School Council Members Absent: Chuck Deters, Whitney Norris, Tom Ruby,

Public Present: Sarah Colella, Nader Elmasri, Yalil Nieves

Called to Order: 6:39pm **Adjourned:** 8:35 pm **Next Meeting:** March 14, 7:00pm

1. Explanation of Local School Council meetings
2. Call to Order: Lloy called the meeting to order at 6:39pm
3. Vote to Approve Meeting Agenda
 - a. Karla H. moved to adopt the agenda, Kathleen seconded it and it was approved unanimously.
4. Vote to Approve Previous Meeting Minutes
 - a. Jenice noted that she was absent at the 1/17/19 meeting but the meeting minutes listed her as both present and absent. Karla H. moved to accept the 1/17/19 meeting minutes with that change, Kathleen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously
5. Public Comment - none

Reports

1. Reports
 - a. PAC Report (Parent Advisory Committee): There was a PAC/BAC meeting featuring a NEIU Professor speaking with parents about how to talk with their children about what they are seeing in the news. Yalil reported that this was a great meeting. Next week is Literacy Night.
 - b. Principal's Report: see attached report.

- i. Kate discussed the negative benefits pointer lines, she has tried multiple times to get the negatives cleared but has not received responses, so she will leave the negatives and continue to make decisions that are best for students.
 - ii. The school has spent money on substitutes so teachers can take advantage of professional development opportunities.
 - iii. The STEAM RFP Site visit is Feb. 28.
 - iv. The Field Committee will be reviewing the 100% Construction Document tomorrow, and it will go out to bid 2/28/19. The groundbreaking ceremony will likely be either March 30 or April 6.
 - v. About 70% of Peterson's students qualify for free/reduced lunch
 - vi. Peterson is working towards renewing its Social Emotional Learning exemplary status. The action plan and evidence has been submitted
 - vii. Michael Coleman has been nominated for the Illinois Counselor of the Year Award
 - viii. Nadir talked about restorative conversation practices and how it is being implemented throughout the school, it has been very positive.
 - ix. Yalil discussed attendance, the school is currently at 95.5%, the goal is 96%, they are continuing to work hard to get the rate up through incentives and speaking with students and parents who have multiple absences. Many kids have been out sick. There was a discussion about the weight of attendance on the School Quality Rating Policy (SQRP), which will be changing. Attendance will be a lower percentage of the SQRP but will count towards "on track" ratings.
 - x. Kathleen reported that the after-hours program is going great, attendance has been really good. They could use help handing out snacks from 3:45-4:00.
- c. PPLC Report (Professional Personnel Leadership Committee): none
 - d. BAC Report (Bilingual Advisory Committee): meeting was held in conjunction with the PAC meeting

2. Public Comment – Sarah noted that there should be support of the implementation of the restorative conversation practices in the school. Kathleen said they have had a lot of training and coaching, and the teachers are practicing using the method which is very

helpful. Maleeha noted that it would be helpful for parents to have some of the information like words to use to de-escalate a situation, so that students are hearing the same things at home and at school.

Old Business

1. STEAM RFP Update - covered in the Principal's Report
2. Capital Improvement Project Prioritization - will discuss at next meeting
3. Social Emotional Learning (Action Plan) Update - covered previously
4. Peterson Attire Update
 - a. Kate reported that the student dress committee have been meeting, doing surveys and discussing potential policies that would then be brought before the LSC for a vote.
5. Field Updates - covered previously
6. Garden Updates - none
7. Art Committee Updates
 - a. Since there is now a new full-time art teacher, this committee is not active. In addition to this teacher, Friends of Peterson will be continuing to support Judy Edstrom's work in the school through next year. The teacher is working on getting arts integrated into other topics.
8. Peterson LSC reaching a larger community audience: no discussion
9. Teacher Residency Site Update
 - a. They are waiting to hear back on this.

New Business

1. Discussion and Vote on Transfer of Funds - none
2. Discussion and Vote on Fundraising for Girl Scout Troop 25581
 - a. This 4th grade troop would like to sell Girl Scout Cookies at Literacy night, and they would give all profits that would normally go to the troop (90 cents per box) to Peterson to buy books for the library. They hope to sell 100 boxes, and give \$90 to Peterson for books.

- b. The LSC had a discussion about this. The committee appreciated the girl scouts wanted to give their profits back to the school and wants to encourage these efforts. But there were concerns about a product being sold at a free school event that doesn't entirely benefit the school, and about the LSC not having a transparent policy on how and when groups can sell products at school events.
 - c. Karla H. moved to approve Girl Scout Troop 25581 selling Girl Scout cookies at a pop-up show after school in collaboration with school administration, with the profits going towards purchasing art books for Peterson. Kathleen seconded the motion. There were 9 yea votes and 1 abstention.
3. Adjournment –Lloy adjourned the meeting at 8:35pm