



# Northside College Preparatory High School

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John Ceisel  
*Chair*

Vicki McMannon  
*Vice Chair*

Cathy Quigley  
*Secretary*

## Local School Council Minutes November 9, 2010

### Commencement

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by John Ceisel.

**Present:** John Ceisel, Vicki McMannon, Barry Rodgers, Kathleen Andrade, Gail Myers Jaffe, Cathy Quigley, Diane Monnich, Meredith O'Connor, Robert Albritton, Nicole Flores, Cesar Monarrez

**Absent:** Crystal Melto

**Guests:** Dr. Murphy (Assistant Principal), Mr. McVane (parent), Mr. Feiger (parent), Mrs. Greene (parent), Mrs. Maura (parent), Mrs. Fisher (parent of an 8<sup>th</sup> grader)

### Approval of Agenda

To approve the agenda for tonight's meeting (see **Motion #1**)

### Approval of Minutes

To approve the minutes from the previous month's meeting on October 12, 2010 (see **Motion #2**)

### Communications

- Mr. Ceisel informed the LSC about workshops sponsored by the organization Designs for Change which could be opportunities for LSC training.

### Student's Report

- On October 21<sup>st</sup>, Northside hosted the following "Principals for a Day": Rear Admiral J. Scott Burhoe of the U.S. Coast Guard; Mr. Steve Spiedel, CIO and COO of Insight; and Ms. MaryAnn LaFaire and Ms. Carmen Maso, both of the EPA.  
[Mr. McVane commented that he was impressed by Rear Admiral Burhoe's comments and focus on diversity.]
- On October 24<sup>th</sup>, thousands of visitors came to Northside for the Open House. There were many student and parent volunteers present at the event.
- Freshman Field Day was held on October 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Seniors organized the Hallowe'en Dance held on October 29<sup>th</sup>.
- The Hallowe'en Concert featured performances by the advanced chorus and orchestra, in costume, on October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The National Honor Society is sponsoring a canned food drive to benefit the Greater Chicago Food Depository. Last year more than 1,000 cans were collected. The advisory which brings in the greatest number of cans will win a free breakfast.
- The play *A Company of Wayward Saints* will be presented in the school auditorium on November 19<sup>th</sup> through the 21<sup>st</sup>.
- The women's varsity swim team won 2<sup>nd</sup> place at the City Conference Championships last Friday.
- Winter team tryouts are in progress.
- Some students are concerned about a new rule about advertising in school: clubs and other school organizations don't know what, when, and where they're allowed to post and need clarification.  
[Dr. Murphy responded.] Mr. Belcaster's colloquium came up with an idea for saving paper in the school by setting guidelines to post fewer flyers in the school. The plan was good, but the implementation has not been perfect. The colloquium students will communicate with the student council. In the meantime, signs for the canned food drive and the play can be posted. It is still true that the administration must approve any signs before they can be posted.

## Principal's Report

- CPS will be getting a new CEO and a new CEDO in the coming months.
- The school publication *Verve* won a gold medal from Columbia Scholastic Press.
- Mrs. Mulligan (math teacher) and Mrs. Flanagan (English teacher) have returned from maternity leave and are back in the classroom.
- At the next CPS Board meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>, members will vote on the new selective enrollment process.
  - The main change proposed to last year's system is a change in balance from 60% of students coming from socio-economic tiers and 40% earning a spot strictly by score, to 70% by tiers and 30% strictly by score.
  - The number of NCLB students admitted to a school will be proportional to the school's enrollment, with a cap of 25 students for larger schools.
  - This year, students from NCLB schools will be required to go through the selective enrollment process.
  - One characteristic being added for consideration for tiers is the quality of local schools in an area.
  - The process will be streamlined and the testing will be centralized.
  - Lane Tech, Westinghouse, and Lindblom were added to the list of schools which will accept students through the NCLB program.
  - ISAT testing is available for children who have attended private grade schools through CPS or through National-Louis University.
- At Northside, with the enrollment of this year's freshman class, racial diversity increased for African American students, but decreased slightly for Asian and Hispanic students. Throughout the city, diversity decreased for African American students but increased for Hispanic students. Both at Northside and also citywide, economic diversity remained roughly the same.
- Schools will probably continue to receive some money to support students from NCLB schools, but the amount is undecided.
- Some parent concerns expressed to Mr. Rodgers include the reliability of the tier system, confusion about criteria, standards too high for acceptance into Northside for some groups of children, and the enforcement of the residency requirements.
- The online application process has made it easier for CPS and for parents.
- Representatives of Northside's administration travel to different schools to encourage students to apply to Northside.
- 4,200 people visited the school at Northside's Open House on October 24<sup>th</sup> (500 more than last year).
- Mr. Rodgers presented some funding requests requiring LSC approval, including funds for report card pick up (dinner for teachers, \$600); for mailings and other preparations for the alumni appeal (\$2,500); and for the Joy Garden (\$110), for a total of \$3,210.
- To approve funding requests (see **Motion #3**)
- Because the Northside LSC had a contested election last spring in all areas (parent, community, and teacher), a laptop has been awarded to the council.
- Ground has been broken for the Celestial Garden. Benches will be installed soon; tiles will be installed and plantings will begin in the spring.
- Northside's Joy Garden received a Landscape Award from Mayor Daley as the best garden of the year in Region 1. Mr. Rodgers commended the collaborative effort of students, alumni, teachers, corporations, and the city to create and maintain the garden.

## Public Comment

- [none]

## Teachers' Report

- Mr. Santiago and Mr. Benincasa created a brochure for Open House.
- Several Northside teachers and staff, including Mrs. Andrews, Mrs. Park, and Ms. Upchurch, recently ran in races, including the Chicago Marathon and smaller local races.
- Northside is currently hosting visitors from Singapore and Serbia.
- Freshman activities recently included a barbecue and the Phreshman Physics Phreakout event coordinated by Mr. Harada.
- The math team and Latin team had very successful performances during the past month.
- Dr. Vites (biology teacher) also returned from a leave of absence.
- Mr. Sliwicki (Spanish teacher) and his wife had a baby girl.
- Mrs. Martinez (chorus teacher) has an album entitled *Blueprints*, which has been nominated for a Grammy award.
- The teachers who replaced faculty on long-term leave will remain as cadre substitutes at Northside for the rest of the school year.

## Committee Reports

- Finance Committee / Friends of Northside
  - Immersed in the Annual Appeal
  - Meeting is upcoming (date undetermined)
  - Pleased with Annual Appeal results so far: parents were able to call all of our Northside families with the help of an updated directory with parents' e-mails, phone numbers, and home addresses.
  - Appeal materials were mailed to parents without e-mail addresses. There was some concern about the large number of freshman parents with no e-mail address on file. There might be a table set up at report card pick up so that parents could add their e-mail addresses to the contact list.
- Northside Parent Network
  - Successful potluck and Open House
  - Seeking input on adult education forum choices
  - Volunteers needed for faculty holiday buffet
  - Planning is underway for Reach for the Stars fundraiser on March 12<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at the Galleria Marchetti, with a circus theme: there will be a big top area and other individual tables available.
  - School directory available at report card pick up
  - Seeking a technologically skilled parent to replace this year's parent, whose child will be graduating at the end of the year
  - There will be a Q&A forum at report card pickup, 4:30-5:30 in the atrium area outside the choral rooms; various school parent groups and the community relations committee will be represented there
- Community Relations
  - First meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>: an open session seeking potential ideas for improvement of communications
  - Committee will be represented at Q&A forum on report card pick up day
  - Seeking more ways to get information out to the community, and more ways to get the community involved
- Principal Selection and Evaluation Committee
  - To approve agenda for next Principal Selection and Evaluation Committee meeting (see **Motion #4**)

## Old Business

- [none]

## New Business

- Clarification: minutes are required for closed session meetings, but only to indicate who was present at the meeting
- The LSC can receive \$400 in funding to pay for general supplies
- To approve a request for LSC funds in the amount of \$400 to pay for supplies needed by the council (see **Motion #5**)

### **Upcoming Meetings**

- Finance Committee: December 13<sup>th</sup>
- Friends of Northside: November 17<sup>th</sup>
- Parent Network: December 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Principal Selection and Evaluation: November 16<sup>th</sup>
- LSC: December 14<sup>th</sup>
- Community Relations: upcoming

### **Agenda**

To approve the standard agenda for next month's meeting (see **Motion #6**)

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m. (see **Motion #7**).

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the LSC will be on Tuesday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the faculty lunchroom. Public participation is welcome.

**Motion #:** 1  
**Motion made by:** Robert Albritton  
**Seconded by:** Barry Rodgers  
**Motion:** To Approve the Agenda for tonight's meeting

**Record of Votes on Motion**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
John Ceisel (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)				X
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Meredith O'Connor (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Cesar Monarrez (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Motion #:** 2  
**Motion made by:** Diane Monnich  
**Seconded by:** Kathleen Andrade  
**Motion:** To Approve the Minutes from the previous meeting (October 12, 2010)

**Record of Votes on Motion**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
John Ceisel (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)				X
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Meredith O'Connor (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Cesar Monarrez (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Motion #:** 3  
**Motion made by:** Gail Myers Jaffe  
**Seconded by:** Meredith O'Connor  
**Motion:** To approve expenditure of funds for report card pick up (dinner for teachers, \$600); for mailings and other preparations for the alumni appeal (\$2,500); and for the Joy Garden (\$110), for a total of \$3,210

**Record of Votes on Motion**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
John Ceisel (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)				X
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Meredith O'Connor (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Cesar Monarrez (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Motion #:** 4  
**Motion made by:** Gail Myers Jaffe  
**Seconded by:** Vicki McMannon  
**Motion:** To approve agenda for the next Principal Selection and Evaluation Committee Meeting

**Record of Votes on Motion**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
John Ceisel (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)				X
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Meredith O'Connor (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Cesar Monarrez (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Motion #:** 5  
**Motion made by:** Kathleen Andrade  
**Seconded by:** Cathy Quigley  
**Motion:** To approve a request for LSC funds to pay for supplies needed by the council (\$400)

**Record of Votes on Motion**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
John Ceisel (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)				X
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Meredith O'Connor (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Cesar Monarrez (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Motion #:** 6  
**Motion made by:** Gail Myers Jaffe  
**Seconded by:** Vicki McMannon  
**Motion:** To approve standard agenda for next month's LSC meeting

**Record of Votes on Motion**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
John Ceisel (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)				X
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Meredith O'Connor (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Cesar Monarrez (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>

**Motion #:** 7  
**Motion made by:** Robert Albritton  
**Seconded by:** Nicole Flores  
**Motion:** To adjourn the LSC meeting at 8:35 p.m.

**Record of Votes on Motion**

<b>Council Members</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
John Ceisel (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)				X
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Meredith O'Connor (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Cesar Monarrez (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>