



Northside College Preparatory High School

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John Ceisel
Chair

Vicki McMannon
Vice Chair

Cathy Quigley
Secretary

Local School Council Minutes February 8, 2011

Commencement

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by John Ceisel.

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

Guests: Dr. Murphy (Assistant Principal), Mr. McVane (parent), Mrs. Greene (parent), Mr. Howenstine (parent), Mrs. Maloney (parent), Mr. Feiger (parent), Ms. Mulligan (teacher), Mr. Tucker (Kinetic Advanced Learning)

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes

To approve the minutes from the previous month's meeting on January 11, 2011 (**see Motion #2**)

Communications

[none]

Announcements

Mr. Ceisel reminded the council members about the background check / fingerprinting required of LSC members.

Student's Report

- The two snow days were enjoyed by the students; this week is a normal 5-day week which makes up at least one of the days off.
- There are new colloquia this semester, including writing college applications, scuba diving, etc.
- The talent show was held on Thursday and included dancing and singing performances.
- The Black Student Union hosted a presentation for all students in the auditorium in honor of Black History Month (February).
- The Spanish Honor Society induction ceremony for new members will be held on Tuesday, March 1st; there are 92 members, including a record number of 69 students admitted this year.
- Sports results: the wrestling team placed 4th at IHSA regionals; the men's swimming and diving team won jv city and will be competing at varsity city.

- There is a new collaboration between the Student Council and the LSC student representative: Cesar will report LSC news to the Student Council and Student Council news to the LSC.
- On March 16th the Student Council president will give a “State of the School” address during an extended advisory.
- The Student Council is requesting more microwaves for lunchroom to speed up process of heating food during lunch periods.
- The Student Council is preparing for Faculty Appreciation Week beginning on May 23rd.
- An all-school colloquium on March 23rd will feature a guest speaker on ethics and on the negative effects of alcohol.
- A t-shirt donation drive is in the planning stages for April; this event will be schoolwide and may also involve collaboration with other schools.

Principal’s Report

- To make up for one of the snow days, there will be school on Friday, February 11th; the administration opted to make this a regular 5-day week, with a colloquium day. The decision was made after opinions were expressed on both sides of the issue, weighing curriculum maintenance against student stress. Mr. Rodgers was not sure how the second snow day would be made up – possibly at the end of the year or on April 1st.
- The “Race to Nowhere” showing on the new screen in the auditorium will be next week on February 15th. The movie focuses on student stress in high stakes academic environments.
- A selective enrollment process meeting planned for February 2nd was postponed to 9th and then postponed again until the 15th: there has been no new information and no opportunity to meet at all.
- To improve the programming process, many sets of eyes will be looking at the students’ programs during various stages of the process to prevent students overloading their schedules and enabling teachers, students, parents, and counselors to insure that programs are academically challenging and appropriate.
- The successes of the English department include an ACT average over 30 with the largest gains in the school and the highest scores in the state. A thoughtful alignment of the curriculum in this department now includes three alternatives for senior honors English, plus AP Lang and Comp and AP Lit and Comp.
- Mr. Rodgers attended an annual technology conference with representatives from Google and Apple, and he recruited Google engineers to be mentors for our robotics program.
- There has been no information from CPS regarding this year’s or next year’s preliminary budget numbers. This information should be distributed in March, followed by a grueling process requiring strong advocacy for the school.

Public Comment

- James Tucker represents Kinetic Advanced Learning, the sponsors of a power reading program which teaches reading as a core skill that spans all disciplines.
- This course was offered at Northside five years ago as a parent initiative and resulted in significant increases in reading speed and comprehension. Mr. Tucker suggested that the course could be brought back to Northside; he described other schools where program is being used, features of the program, and how the program might be implemented here. 20 students would be needed to offer the weekend series at Northside.
- In response to a question about the Homecoming dance, it was confirmed that only high school students are permitted to attend.

Teachers' Report

- The 20-Hour Art Show was held last Friday and through the weekend.
- Northside art students contributed to the high school division of a series of snow sculptures at Navy Pier.
- The Math Team continues to do very well in state competition, currently tied for 3rd in the IML and CCML regional competitions.
- The "U-Rock" award, internal recognition that members of the faculty pass on to one another, was most recently given to Dianne Malueg for her sponsorship of the yearbook and school newspaper.
- Teachers will distribute principal evaluation materials, including scantron forms and instructions, to faculty and staff tomorrow during a faculty meeting. There will be disaggregation of data from the leadership team.
- In response to a question, it was reported that the faculty is evaluated, in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement, with two observations per year based on set criteria. If a teacher receives an excellent or superior rating, then he or she is evaluated every other year. The process may be revisited in the future, but that is the process at this time.
- Professional development: the faculty watched "Race to Nowhere." The film provided insight into some of the various pressures that students experience, including our students. The film was positively received by the faculty and prompted reflection on how to do something different to reduce student stress.

Committee Reports

- Finance Committee/Friends of Northside
 - So far, Friends has collected \$191,000 for the annual appeal (goal is \$200,000).
 - Able to purchase Cubby Walk tickets for Friday, May 13th: last Friday of the 2-week AP exam process - so far only one student impacted by that date; cost to Friends was \$5 per ticket; only three 1:20 games to choose from
- Parent Network will meet on Thursday, February 10th; the Gala committee will also meet this Thursday.
 - Gala invitations went out; first one came back with 8 people paying
 - Magicians, fun atmosphere, band
 - Receiving items for silent auction, including a Cubs jersey, 3 nights at the Mirage in Las Vegas, restaurant donations
 - Wine cellars – asked LSC and Parent Network for a case of wine – anytime before the next meeting
- Principal Selection and Evaluation Committee
 - Boards of Friends and Parent Network will have the opportunity to provide feedback
 - Committee will meet 6:00 next week for a 45-minute report from Mr. Rodgers, followed by showing of "Race to Nowhere"
 - Meeting next week is in the conference room; every other meeting will be in the faculty lunchroom
 - To approve the agenda for the Principal Evaluation Committee meetings on the 15th and the 22nd of February (**see Motion #3**)

New Business

- Mr. Ceisel welcomed Vicky Andrews as the newest member of the Northside LSC. As per the recent legislative mandate and non-binding advisory election, Mrs. Andrews is the non-teaching staff representative on the council.

Upcoming Meetings

- Finance Committee: TBD (meeting to be scheduled with Mr. Rodgers in February)
- Friends of Northside: February 24th at 7:00 PM in the main office conference room
- Parent Network: Thursday, February 10th (rescheduled from snow day) and then again on Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 PM
- Principal Selection and Evaluation: February 15th and 22nd, March 8th and 22nd
- LSC: March 1st
- Community Relations: TBD

Agenda

To approve the standard agenda for next month's meeting (see **Motion #4**)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:13 p.m. (see **Motion #5**).

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the LSC will be on Tuesday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the faculty lunchroom. Public participation is welcome.

Motion #: 1
Motion made by: Vicki McMannon
Seconded by: Vicky Andrews
Motion: To approve the standard agenda for tonight's meeting

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Total	13	0	0	0

Motion #: 2
Motion made by: Robert Albritton
Seconded by: Crystal Melto
Motion: To approve the minutes from last month's meeting (January 11, 2011)

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Vicky Andrews (staff)			X	
Total	12	0	1	0

Motion #: 3
Motion made by: Gail Myers Jaffe
Seconded by: Vicki McMannon
➤ Motion: To approve the agenda for the Principal Selection and Evaluation Committee meetings on February 15th and 22nd

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Total	13	0	0	0

Motion #: 4
Motion made by: Robert Albritton
Seconded by: Nicole Flores
Motion: To approve standard agenda for March 1st LSC meeting

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Total	13	0	0	0

Motion #: 5
Motion made by: Vicky Andrews
Seconded by: Gail Myers Jaffe
Motion: To adjourn the LSC meeting

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Total	13	0	0	0