



**Northside College Preparatory High School**  
5501 N. Kedzie Avenue Chicago, Illinois 60625  
Telephone 773.534.3954 Fax 773.534.3964

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John Ceisel  
*Chair*

Kathleen Andrade  
*Vice Chair*

Cathy Quigley  
*Secretary*

**Local School Council Minutes**  
**April 24, 2012**

**Commencement**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by John Ceisel.

**Present:** John Ceisel, Kathleen Andrade, Barry Rodgers, Vicky Andrews, Gail Myers Jaffe, Vicki McMannon, Crystal Melto, Diane Monnich, Zobia Chunara

**Guests:** Ms. Joseph, Mr. Pineda, Ms. Beinstein, Ms. Bernauer, Ms. Bologna, Mr. Baskin, Ms. Mellin

**Approval of Agenda**

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

**Approval of Minutes**

**To approve the minutes from the previous meeting on March 13, 2012 (see Motion #2)**

**Student's Report**

- Approximately half the student body visited the Adler Planetarium last month on a colloquium day (aligned with the Celestial Garden theme), and the rest of the school will go to the Planetarium tomorrow.
- Final exams for AP classes at Northside are coming up soon, and then the actual AP exams will be administered between May 7<sup>th</sup> and May 18<sup>th</sup>.
- A part of the kitchen area at Northside has been opened up and repainted. Free food was distributed to promote a new program providing alternatives to the regular cafeteria fare.
- The Talent show was held last Friday evening in the school auditorium.
- Juniors are in the middle of PSAE testing: they took the ACT today, and they will take the Prairie State Exam tomorrow.
- The College Fair was held at Northside last week. A large number of students, especially juniors, were in attendance. Feedback was positive.

**Principal's Report**

- A vendor initiated contact with the school and proposed the inclusion of a retail restaurant area in the kitchen. The area was repainted, signage was installed, and there was a competition to name the new area. Some healthier and slightly more expensive food options are available: the facility includes a grill for preparing veggie burgers, and students can purchase mozzarella sticks with whole grain breading, for example.

- The Northside Alumni initiative is officially in place, including officers and a formalized organization, and would like to sponsor a salad bar for students. The group is researching the feasibility of bringing in vegetables grown in the NCP garden behind the school. (This has not been allowed by CPS in the past.)
- New security cameras have been installed. The cameras are more high-powered, and the system is being changed from analog to digital. There will be more upgrades in the future, but the digital system allows for new technology to be installed and implemented.
- May 23rd is the deadline for submitting the school's budget, full school day proposal, and Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP).
- This Thursday the budget is supposed to be released to the school from CPS; Mr. Rodgers has received no indications of what to expect. Any budget is subject to change based on negotiations with teachers' union.
- The current movement is to decentralize CPS (increasing network activity, decreasing central office involvement in day-to-day operations).
- CPS representatives, including Leslie Boozer (Chief of High Schools for the North/Northwest Side Network), Jane Norton (Family and Community Engagement Manager at CPS), and Andrea Hall (from the CPS central office) came to Northside to discuss the full school day mandate. The event was coordinated by the Northside Parent Network, which did an excellent job facilitating the conversation.
- Some students will have an opportunity to see the Dalai Lama, who is appearing in Chicago on April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Greenery behind the school is looking less like construction and more like gardens and fields, thanks to the continued efforts of community and other organizations.
- Mr. Rodgers made requests for funding from Friends of Northside: \$9000 for athletics, \$9000 for building operations (supplies, materials to keep the building running) as part of the original budget requested at the beginning of the school year.
- **To approve transfer of funding from Friends of Northside in the amount of \$18,000 for athletics and building operations (See Motion #3.)**
- Mr. Rodgers requested the transfer of \$10,237.42 of Supplemental General State Aid (SGSA) funds (part of the SIPAAA budget not spent this year, originally intended for computer network installation) to be used for AP tutoring for math, science, language, arts, and gifted programs. He also requested the use of rollover funds to purchase library materials and additionally fund the tutoring and AP test preparation described above.
  - \$2600 for library materials (rollover funds)
  - \$16,507.13 for extended hours worked by teachers (currently on staff) providing tutoring and AP test preparation for math, science, language, arts, and gifted programs (includes \$6269.71 from rollover funds)
- **To approve the transfer of \$19107.13 of SGSA funds for teacher tutoring/test preparation and for library materials (See Motion #4.)**
- The new draft proposal for implementing the full school day mandate reflects 75 minutes returned to high schools for professional development. The "X" and "Y" periods on Wednesday afternoons provide opportunities for academic enrichment and support. Some students may be recommended to seek academic assistance/tutoring; other students may work in the science labs, gym, pool, or art rooms. Work still to be done: deciding how to staff these periods. Goal: to enrich and build on students' knowledge and understanding – not to add more work to students' current load.
- Schedule turnaround: the proposal will be submitted on May 23rd, and it probably will be accepted, although it is still contingent on teacher contract negotiations. Additional changes to the full school day guidelines are not expected. There is a CPS board meeting tomorrow – the only chance for relief from this mandate is to go to the board directly. Should we work with CPS, or is there any utility in approaching the board again on this topic?

Parents discussed the merits of continuing to express opposition to the full school day initiative, either directly to the board or through other options.

- Mrs. Jaffe applauded the new draft schedule for the full school day, calling it the best possible solution given the constraints imposed by CPS.
- After input from students, advisory was added to the schedule for all days of the week (rather than only on Wednesdays).
- Mr. Rodgers indicated that some of these changes imposed by the full school day mandate can ultimately benefit the students and the school.

### **Public Comment**

- In response to questions about principal discretion, Mr. Rodgers reported that 150 students applied and 14 students were selected. He indicated that it is an extremely difficult process, and difficult choices needed to be made. There are fairly strict guidelines from CPS, including board review and signed affidavits. The process has been completed, and acceptance letters have been sent to 14 students.
- The main changes in the proposed schedule for the full school day are that the days (excluding Wednesday) are 11 minutes longer, and the afternoons after colloquium are no longer free for students; however, Wednesdays are still less structured than a regular school day.
- The school year has also been extended by 10 days.
- This draft of the schedule will be submitted, unless something changes between now and May 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Report card pickup next year will be a half day (from noon until 3:30). Students attend school in the morning, and then go home at noon. Mr. Brizzard's letter stated that there would be a 5-hour block of time for parents to pick up report cards, but that would extend the teachers' day and might not be allowed by their contract.

### **Teachers' Report**

- Teachers are getting ready for AP exams or equivalent end-of-the year assessments and activities, including fine arts performances and world language national honor societies member selection.
- The math team and Latin team are doing well in competition.
- CPS and the Chicago Teachers Union have formed a fact-finding group which will meet for 75 days beginning May 1<sup>st</sup>; a timeline is published in *Catalyst*.

### **Committee Reports**

#### ➤ **Finance**

- A meeting will be scheduled before the next LSC meeting, possibly May 4<sup>th</sup>; school fees will be discussed.
- The Parent Network is considering joining the PTA, which would involve a fee payment. The potential benefit to the school is that the Illinois PTA is very closely networked with CPS, proposes and promotes legislative initiatives, and is aware of current educational issues.

#### ➤ **Friends**

- The committee sent a final mailing to families who have not yet donated to the Annual Appeal.

- They are working with the Parent Network to wrap up the Gala.
- Cubby Walk kickoff will be on Friday; the game is on Wednesday, May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- A parent of a 2010 graduate and an incoming freshman will work on the Friends board next year and possibly take over the following year.

➤ **Parent Network:**

- College Fair was successful and garnered rave reviews.
- The committee is preparing for the upcoming Junior Book Awards ceremony.
- The Parent Network sponsored a college education talk during report card pickup.
- There will be a change in leadership for next year; a smooth transition is hoped for and expected.
- There will be a volunteer dinner hosted by Mr. Rodgers and Dr. Murphy on Tuesday, May 8th, at 5:45, before the LSC meeting.

➤ **Community Relations**

- Mrs. Monnich expressed disappointment that nothing has been posted on the newly acquired and installed bulletin board. Is there a key at the front desk?
- There is need for more AP exam proctors – training is on Thursday. This will be posted on the volunteer website.
- Mrs. Monnich called for more volunteers to work on the EPIC; she is hoping for more writers and more teacher input.

➤ **Principal Selection and Evaluation:**

- Feedback by LSC members on the principal evaluation process were distributed by Mr. Ceisel.
- **To approve the principal's evaluation as prepared by the LSC in committee (See Motion #5)**
- Mr. Ceisel and Mrs. Andrade will meet with Mr. Rodgers to go through the evaluation and all feedback received from the Northside community in the course of the evaluation process.

**Old Business:**

- Prior to the regular LSC meeting we had a meeting to review the Continuous Improvement Work Plan (CIWP). We “walked through” the report. The deadline to approve the report was extended, so we will not vote on the plan until our next regular LSC meeting in May.
- Comments to share from Mr. Rodgers: the Leadership Team has been working on this document, and they have run it by the network to make sure it's on track. They like the format of the document as a living document, and its content falls in line with district priorities. The committee will continue to develop the plan until it is voted on next month.
- The priorities of the CIWP are supporting the success of all students, leveraging technology to enhance instruction, and implementing the full school day mandate so that the curriculum can be aligned to improve student achievement.
- If goals are not met, are there any repercussions? We would not be on probation: metrics for probation are student growth in numbers of students who meet and exceed standards. When a school reaches a certain performance level, then these probation criteria do not apply; however, we must show continued student improvement.

## **New Business**

- Congratulations to the candidates who were elected to the 2012-2013 Northside Local School Council last week.

## **Upcoming Meetings**

- Finance committee: May 4<sup>th</sup>
- Friends of Northside: May 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Parent Network: May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- Principal Selection and Evaluation: May 1<sup>st</sup> (Mr. Ceisel, Mrs. Andrade, Mr. Rodgers)
- LSC: May 8<sup>th</sup>

## **Agenda**

**To approve the standard agenda (see Motion #6)**

## **Adjournment**

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. (see Motion #7).**

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the LSC will be on Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the faculty lunchroom. Public participation is welcome.

**Motion #:** 1  
**Motion made by:** Gail Myers Jaffe  
**Seconded by:** Vicki McMannon  
**Motion:** To approve the agenda for tonight'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			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Zobia Chunara (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Motion #:** 2  
**Motion made by:** Gail Myers Jaffe  
**Seconded by:** Vicki McMannon  
**Motion:** To approve the minutes from last month's meeting (March 13, 2012)

**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			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Cathy Quigley (parent)			X	
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)			X	
Nicole Flores (teacher)			X	
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Zobia Chunara (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	

**Motion #:** 3  
**Motion made by:** Gail Myers Jaffe  
**Seconded by:** Vicki McMannon  
**Motion:** To approve transfer of funding from Friends of Northside in the amount of \$18,000 for athletics and building operations

**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			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Zobia Chunara (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Motion #:** 4  
**Motion made by:** Crystal Melto  
**Seconded by:** Diane Monnich  
**Motion:** To approve the transfer of \$19107.13 of SGSA funds for teacher tutoring/test preparation and for library materials

**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			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Zobia Chunara (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Motion #:** 5  
**Motion made by:** Robert Albritton  
**Seconded by:** Kathleen Andrade  
**Motion:** To approve the principal's evaluation as prepared by the LSC in committee

**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			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)			X	
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Zobia Chunara (student)			X	
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

**Motion #:** 6  
**Motion made by:** Vicki McMannon  
**Seconded by:** Kathleen Andrade  
**Motion:** To approve the standard agenda for next month'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			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Zobia Chunara (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Motion #:** 7  
**Motion made by:** Nicole Flores  
**Seconded by:** Gail Myers Jaffe  
**Motion:** To adjourn the LSC meeting at 8:45 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			
Kathleen Andrade (parent)	X			
Gail Myers Jaffe (parent)	X			
Crystal Melto (parent)	X			
Vicki McMannon (parent)	X			
Cathy Quigley (parent)	X			
Diane Monnich (community)	X			
Robert Albritton (teacher)	X			
Nicole Flores (teacher)	X			
Barry Rodgers (principal)	X			
Vicky Andrews (staff)	X			
Zobia Chunara (student)	X			
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>