



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

John Ceisel
Chair

Kathleen Andrade
Vice Chair

Cathy Quigley
Secretary

Local School Council Minutes
March 13, 2012

Commencement

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 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

Absent: Robert Albritton, Nicole Flores, Cathy Quigley

Guests: Scott Baskin, Leona Bernauer, Ed Cook, MaryAnn DiDomenico, Todd Fulton, Erick Howenstine, Janet Joseph, Sue Mellin, Carlos Pineda, Faith Spencer

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 January 10, 2012 (see Motion #2)

Mr. Ceisel noted two amendments to the draft minutes: moving student comments to the public comment portion of the minutes, and removing the finance committee from the list of upcoming meetings last month, since they did not meet.

Communications

Mr. Ceisel discussed communications via e-mail regarding the extension of the LSC application deadline to March 23rd and leaving the date of the candidates' forum on March 22nd. He also mentioned the need for an item of new business on the agenda to certify the results of the LSC election in an open meeting.

Student's Report

- Events are winding down as students anxiously await spring break.
- Northside won first place at the Louder than a Bomb competition; finals were on Saturday. The *Hoofbeat* covered the event.
- Hopefully there will be more students attending the Senior Luncheon; 85 more students indicated that they will be there.
- Junior prom tickets go on sale later this week.
- The NHS-sponsored 3-on-3 basketball tournament will be held tomorrow.

- Some students will be visiting the Adler Planetarium tomorrow; the rest of the student body will visit the Planetarium on April 25th.

Principal's Report

- Junior Prom is the night before an ACT testing date (comment by parent). Mr. Rodgers explained that there were a limited number of dates available for the prom, and there were other, multiple dates to take the ACT.
- Northside welcomed families of the incoming freshman class of 2016 last week. 284 students were invited to attend Northside; 267 said, "yes."
- There were 65 perfect scores.
- Northside's Slam Poets won the Louder than a Bomb competition, which was an incredible accomplishment. Nora Flanagan was elected Coach of the Year, and the team will be competing at the next level in California this summer.
- The Gala was another big win for Northside; Mr. Rodgers expressed thanks to Kathleen Andrade and Ellen Rodman. The annual Gala is first and foremost a community-building event, but it is also, of course, a fundraiser.
- Three Northside students earned perfect ACT scores.
- The Black Student Showcase was presented to Northside students; Mr. Rodgers described the event as a "true gift" to the school.
- The Elephant with Riders event held over the weekend continues to contribute to the greater good and attracts great art students to Northside.
- The Adler Planetarium Field Trip will be "outstanding" tomorrow. The sky show will be tailored to our students.
- Vice Admiral Rogers will be visiting Northside and meeting with Mr. Rodgers tomorrow.
- CPS has granted a waiver of mandatory interim testing for all Northside students this year; these assessments will be part of next year's school calendar.
- Most students have registered for classes. We have not heard about the CPS school schedule for next year – Mr. Rodgers anticipates hearing about this at the end of the month.
- Ms. Spillane will go on tomorrow's field trip, which coincides with the Celestial Gardens theme.
- Dr. Murphy will go to City Hall tomorrow to represent Northside when the school is recognized for the Illinois State Board of Education Academic Excellence Award.
- Mrs. Monnich asked for copy of the award letter to go into the EPIC.
- No approvals for funds are required at this time.
- Mr. Pineda asked for an overview of admissions process. Mr. Rodgers explained that 30% of top scoring students are accepted based strictly on rank. The other 70% are accepted based on scores within residence tiers. 5% more students may be added through principal discretion, special education, and NCLB criteria.
- There will be approximately 272 freshmen, about the same as last year. We are looking for 270, which gives us 1080 students in total school population. This number provides the opportunity for 10-14 students to be admitted via the principal discretion process.
- Mr. Howenstine asked about teacher retirements; Mr. Rodgers cannot comment at this time.
- Mrs. McMannon inquired about the rationale for allowing suburban students to apply to Chicago's selective enrollment schools.

- LSC members discussed ways in which these situations could be investigated, and Mr. Ceisel indicated that there are hearings on the selective enrollment policy every year.
- A parent inquired about any known instances of tier abuse. Mr. Rodgers suggested that we should look into this issue. Not all abuse is discovered. The census is a piece of the determination, but the formula can be manipulated.
- Mrs. Melto suggested that parents should get involved with the selective enrollment process, rather than the individual schools. When the scores drop for accepted students, teachers must teach to a wide range of ability, which makes their job more difficult.
- Mr. Cook reminded the audience that the tier-based system was implemented to replace the desegregation requirement that was declared unconstitutional. With 15,000 students applying for 2,000 spots, parents need to demand more selective enrollment high schools. Mr. Rodgers indicated that he has had to hold back acceptance for students who scored 895 out of 900 possible points, and that is problematic. There must be a better way. Diversity is important, but there has to be a balance. This process was put in place fairly quickly, and there was not a lot of planning time that went into establishing the new system.
- Mr. Howenstine commented that the shift has gone from race to class, but there are advantages to this as well. People in lower tiers have to travel farther, which costs more, and these students have to be very focused to attend Northside.
- Full Day: Mr. Rodgers reported that 108-minute blocks with no advisory will now be 102-minute blocks with advisory on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, as requested by students.
- Focused and Purposeful activities may include Academic Support (could be used as study period), Academic Enrichment, Academic Teams, Louder than a Bomb, Sports, and physical education for health (non-credit) during the Colloquium Day afternoon.
- CWIP will replace SIPAAA beginning this year. New training will take place as this change is implemented.
- New assessments will include PARC Tests to evaluate the degree to which students are meeting the Common Core Standards. After this year, the school will administer four tests, either in addition to or in combination with the EXPLORE/PLAN/ACT sequence. Comparisons will be made between tests administered in the fall and tests administered in the spring. This is in addition to all of the other tests Northside students typically take, including world language national exams and AP exams.
- Teacher evaluations will be based on student performance beginning next year. This policy is still in its nascent phase.
- English, Language Arts, and Math are the only subjects for which Common Core Standards have been written thus far. Union contract negotiations will also be taking place concurrently with the development of testing and teacher evaluation policies.
- Board has proposed a 2% raise over 5 years for the extra time that teachers will be teaching. There will be no more raises other than those tied to merit. There will be no more accumulating sick days. There will be a longer school day and a longer school year, but there will be less time for teacher preparation and professional development and increased health care premiums, with no additional resources.

Public Comment

- In response to question, Mr. Rodgers indicated that there is a new requirement in place this year, a one-year technology requirement. A new course, Exploring Computers, is being taught by Mr. Yanek (who applied for a grant to fund the program).

Teachers' Report

[none]

Committee Reports

- **Finance:** committee will probably meet after spring break. There will be fees to review at the April LSC meeting and vote on at the May meeting.
- **Friends:** There is a little hiatus: the Gala was great, and the Cubby Walk will kick off after spring break.
- **Parent Network:**
 - New Student Welcome Night had representatives from different school and parent groups to answer parents' questions.
 - Next event is College Fair which will be held at Northside on Monday, April 16 at 6:30pm.
 - 2 officers from NPN were invited to attend a Community Relations meeting at CPS tomorrow. Leona and another officer will be presenting our petition, which was not presented at the last Board meeting due to time constraints. The Parent Network is also considering submitting the petition to the Illinois State Board of Education.
 - Students made origami flowers for each locker for Staff Appreciation Day. (Dr. Murphy mentioned how grateful the staff was for the Staff Appreciation activities.)
- **Community Relations**
 - Discussion about upcoming elections. There will be one ballot for teachers and one for non-teachers. Currently there are 8 parents and 4 students running: no community, teacher, or staff candidates. Senior parents can apply to be community representatives if they live north of Belmont to the city limits. Mike Goode in charge of alumni contacts. Mrs. Jaffe suggested posting the candidate statements on the NCP website. Mrs. Monnich said she would like to post an article in the EPIC at the end of March.
 - Candidate statements should be one page. Erin Kato is the contact person. Mrs. Melto will talk to Mrs. Kato to see that the statements are posted.
 - The Candidates Forum will be held on March 22nd at 7 pm in the school library.
 - New bulletin board is here.
 - Mrs. Huestis will petition the teachers to turn in articles for the EPIC.
- **Principal Selection and Evaluation:**
 - Problems with on-line evaluation form – talk to Mrs. Andrews.
 - We will have a closed meeting next week to refine the final evaluation to be ratified and voted on at the (open) April LSC meeting.

Old Business:

[none]

New Business

- Mrs. Kato reported that we need to schedule an open LSC meeting between the April 19-27 . Can we reschedule our meeting to April 24th and take care of it then so we don't have to meet twice in April?
- To approve the date change for the April LSC meeting from April 10th to April 24th (see **Motion #3**)
- *Pirates of Penzance* will be performed at Northside on March 22nd – 25th.

Upcoming Meetings

- Finance committee: after spring break
- Friends of Northside: March 26th
- Parent Network: April 12th
- Principal Selection and Evaluation: March 20th
- LSC: April 24th

Agenda

To approve the standard agenda (see Motion #4)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m. (see Motion #5).

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the LSC will be on Tuesday, April 24th, at 7:00 p.m. in the faculty lunchroom. Public participation is welcome.

Motion #: 1
Motion made by: Crystal Melto
Seconded by: Kathleen Andrade
Motion: To approve the agenda for tonight's LSC meeting

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Total	9	0	0	3

Motion #: 2
Motion made by: Gail Myers Jaffe
Seconded by: Kathleen Andrade
Motion: To approve the minutes from last month's meeting (February 21, 2012)

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Total	7	0	2	3

Motion #: 3
Motion made by: Gail Myers Jaffe
Seconded by: Crystal Melto
Motion: To approve the change of date of the April LSC meeting from April 10th to April 24th

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Total	8	0	1	3

Motion #: 4
Motion made by: Vicki McMannon
Seconded by: Vicky Andrews
Motion: To approve the standard agenda for next month's meeting

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Total	9	0	0	3

Motion #: 5
Motion made by: Vicki McMannon
Seconded by: Vicky Andrews
Motion: To adjourn the LSC meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Record of Votes on Motion

Council Members	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
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			
Total	9	0	0	3