
HELEN C. PEIRCE SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES • AN IB WORLD SCHOOL

1423 W. Bryn Mawr • Chicago, Illinois 60660 • Telephone: (773) 534-2440 • Fax: (773) 534-2577

Lori Zaimi • Principal

Virag Nanavati • Assistant Principal

MINUTES

PEIRCE LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, September 24, 2015

******* 6:00 p.m. *******

Peirce Gymnasium

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm by JD.
2. Roll was called. Present were Lori Zaimi (LZ), Bridget Fabianski (BF), Joe Dunne (JD), John Albrecht (JA), James Morgan (JM), Jeff Korte (JK), Maria Rodriguez (MR), Bill Kennedy (BK) and Chris Drase. Absent was Lupe Garcia (LG).
3. JK motioned to approve the order of the Agenda, JA seconded. All present voted in favor.
4. Public Participation -
Karen Dreyfuss – Stated that parents are excited about all the communication so far this year. She also noted that the Edgewater 5K would be held on Sunday, September 27 at 8 am.
5. Items Needing Council Approval –
 - a. JM motioned to approve the Minutes from the July 23, 2015 regular meeting, BK seconded. All present voted in favor.
 - b. JK motioned to approve the Minutes from the July 23, 2015 regular meeting, JM seconded. All present voted in favor.
6. School Budget 2015-2016 School Year – Principal had to re-allocate \$55,000 for substitute professional development bucket, funds were placed in the wrong bucket over the summer. Principal had to re-allocate \$4200 for the website, funds were placed in the wrong budget line. Peirce’s SBB funds were calculated based on 931 students. Currently there are 928 students enrolled in K-8. Adjustments based on those numbers will either increase or decrease funds. 20th day projection figures come out tomorrow, LZ will let the Council know what the final budget numbers are.
7. Transfer of Funds – No federal or state funds were transferred.
8. Least Restrictive Environment – LZ reported that there has been an increase of 5 students who require Special Education supports this school year. Peirce may need an additional DL teacher to accommodate student needs. LZ stated that DL teachers are working closely with staff. LZ spoke about having a parent meeting to explain what DL’s are and what it is like to have a these children in your child’s classroom.
9. Old Business –
 - a. School Photographer – no update
 - b. LSC Vacancies – no non-teaching staff have applied, 3 parent applications have been received. John Azpeitia attended the meeting and was invited to speak to the council about his background.
 - c. LSC Training Needs – JD informed the council that module 5 is available now and to check the online LSC training website.

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- d. Former closed session tapes – JD presented a catalog list to the council. Discussion was had and the council agreed to discuss the matter again in 6 months.
10. Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing Candidates for the LSC Vacancies - JK motioned at 6:29 pm to move into executive session to discuss LSC Vacancies, JA seconded. All present voted in favor. Discussion commenced. JD motioned to exit executive session at 6:33 pm and return to open session, JK seconded. All present voted in favor.
11. Motion to Approve Candidate(s) to fill LSC Vacancies – JK motioned to approved John Azpeitia as a candidate for parent member on the Peirce LSC, MR seconded. A voice vote was taken, LZ abstained, all other council members in attendance voted in favor.
12. New Business –
 - a. LSC Committees
 - I. Principal Review Committee – Bill Kennedy will chair this committee. A new principal evaluation tool has been released. JD spoke with LZ about updating the school website to detail more about what the LSC duties are. LSC contact information on the website will include JD and JK as well as the LSC gmail account.
 - II. Safety and Security Committee – AP Nanavati attended the most recent CAPS meeting. LZ is working on a encouraging more parents and staff to join this committee.
 - III. Communications Committee – not formed at this time
 - IV. Other Committees – LZ would like to have various focus groups work on the upcoming CIWP. BK, JD, John Azpeitia (JA2), and JM would be interested in joining and leading these groups. LZ reported that the CIWP in on the Peirce website for viewing.
13. School Reports
 - a. PSO – no report
 - b. FOP – approved funding money for a school debate team.
 - c. PAC – no report
 - d. BAC – no report
 - e. Principals Report – LZ provided a handout.

Highlights included:

 - Principal meets weekly with the admin team which includes PYP and MYP coordinators, Counselor, Case Manager, BLT, and Assistant Principal.
 - Administrative team visits classrooms daily to observe instruction, getting a pulse of the school and a better understanding of where we are at in regards to IB instructional practices.
 - Dr. Terzian leads a mentors and mentees teacher program. They meet regularly.
 - Peirce received \$35,000 in After School All Stars funding.

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- Students in 2nd-8th grade now enter the building at 7:55 am, this change has made a much smoother transition to the school day and has gone exceptionally well.
- Second Step will continue to be used this school year for Social Emotional Learning.
- All PYP staff have been trained in PYP.
- Classroom websites have been created by teachers to increase communication with parents.
- Peirce hosted Curriculum Night on Thursday, September 17 along with two IB informational sessions for parents.
- Principal received \$12,500 from Heather Steans to support our Argument Centered Writing project with 6th-8th grade students.
- New light posts are being installed on Bryn Mawr.
- Principal and Assistant Principal are working to have a 24 hour turnaround time when responding to parent and community emails.
- Principal maintains a virtual “Suggestion Box” on the school website, checks it regularly and follows up with parents.

14. Public Participation - none

15. Announcements

- JA noted that LZ would attend that upcoming Edgewater Glen Association on Monday, October 5 at 7 pm.
- October 2, 2015 48th Ward School Fair will be held at the Edgewater Library from 10-12 am.
- LZ reported that the Centennial event planning is progressing – ticket are on sale now. There will be a street dedication to Helen C. Peirce on the corner of Bryn Mawr and Glenwood. A 100 year picture of all students and staff will be taken on the Peirce turf.

16. MR motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 pm, JK seconded. All present voted in favor.

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