



# Skinner West Local School Council Monthly Meeting Tuesday, January 24, 2017 6:30 P.M.

## MEETING MINUTES

**Deborah M. Clark**  
Principal

**Armando Chacon**  
Community Representative

**Melvin Flowers**  
Parent Representative

**Sharlene P.B. Hobson**  
Parent Representative

**Sheila Howard**  
Staff Representative

**Tom Kim**  
Community Representative

**Matthew Letourneau**  
Parent Representative

**Fadi S. Matalka**  
Parent Representative

**Michael McMurray**  
Parent Representative

**Donna McSpadden**  
Teacher Representative

**Nell Strong**  
Parent Representative

**Ramel Werner**  
Teacher Representative

### 1. Call to Order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 6:48 pm by President M. McMurray.
- b. Present were LSC members M. Flowers, S. Howard, F. Matalka, M. McMurray, D. McSpadden, and R. Werner.
- c. LSC member M. Letourneau arrived at 6:55 pm (M. Flowers agreed to record minutes until his arrival). LSC member A. Chacon arrived at 7:03 pm.

### 2. Approval of Agenda

- a. The agenda was approved (R. Werner, M. Flowers).

### 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. The December 20, 2016 meeting minutes were approved (R. Werner, S. Howard).

### 4. Announcements & Public Communications

- a. PTO/Forum: Per N. Strong, the group discussed the need for volunteers and funding, as well as the Casino Night fundraiser for next year.
- b. Friends of Skinner West (FOSW): Per Marla Sedler, the Holiday Giving Drive was successful. FOSW obtained 200 new Chromebooks for the school. FOSW is in need of a new Secretary. There has been a problem with computer service; Ms. Clark is looking for a new vendor. FOSW is investigating the option of having a UIC intern work at the school for credit. Since FOSW is now under the Skinner School Forum after a recent bylaws update, FOSW donators can write their checks directly to FOSW.
- c. West Loop Community News: Per M. Letourneau, the Chicago Children's Theater recently opened, with many Skinner families in attendance. Ald. Walter Burnett has also recently announced a new library near the former Coyne Building in Fulton Market and a new fieldhouse at Skinner Park.

### 5. Committee Reports

- a. Chairperson's Report: No report.
- b. Principal's Report:

- i. The Glee Club conducted field trips to Mariano's, House of Blues, and the Chicago Children's Theatre.
  - ii. There were several holiday events last month, including the Music House concert and parent concerts.
  - iii. Winter NWEA testing will be conducted from January 12-27.
  - iv. Skinner received a \$15,000 check from CNA.
  - v. The Skinner West ski trip will take place on February 3.
- c. Professional Personnel Leadership Committee (PPLC): Per D. McSpadden, the committee will be meeting on Monday, January 30.
- d. Special Education/LRE: Per R. Werner, practices have begun for the Special Olympics.
- e. School Improvement: Per S. Hobson, the committee named Ms. Travis as the new Secretary. A seminar on restorative practices will be held in February and training will be provided soon for conducting indoor recess. Ms. Clark is investigating options for a Mandarin teacher with help from the Chinese-American Service League. Funding is needed for K-5 science training (\$2,000). CPS employees will have a four-day furlough soon.
- f. Facility Services: No report.
- g. Communications: No report.
- h. Bilingual Advisory Committee: Per F. Matalka, the group met on January 20 but no report is yet available.
- i. LSC Advisory: Per M. McMurray, there was a briefing held yesterday (a summary will follow).
- j. Expansion Committee: Per M. Flowers, the committee is planning to meet with Ald. Burnett on February 2 to discuss his recent proposal to provide four stories on the expansion. The LSC discussed the need to post notices about future school expansion meetings on the Skinner website and to forecast the expected demand on the expansion. The next Expansion Committee meeting will be held on February 8.

**6. Old Business**

- a. M. Letourneau discussed the need for a school traffic plan. He will distribute to the LSC a draft letter for local aldermen to call attention to traffic safety improvements that can be made. M. Letourneau also volunteered to lead development of a school traffic plan.

**7. New Business**

- a. None.

**8. Public Comment**

- a. None.

**9. Adjournment**

- a. The meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm (R. Werner, M. Flowers).

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Letourneau  
Skinner West LSC Secretary