



Skinner West Local School Council Monthly Meeting Tuesday, December 20, 2016 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 6:49 pm by Vice President M. Strong.
- b. Present were LSC members D. Clark, M. Flowers, S. Hobson, S. Howard, M. Letourneau, F. Matalka, D. McSpadden, N. Strong, and R. Werner.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. The agenda was approved (M. Flowers).

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- a. The November 15, 2016 meeting minutes were approved (M. Flowers, S. Hobson).

4. Announcements & Public Communications

- a. PTO/Forum: Per N. Strong, the group discussed the Casino Night and cookie dough fundraisers. Friends of Skinner West will now have its own tax ID and mission, but will continue under the PTO. The PTO will focus on community-building, as well as fundraising.
- b. Friends of Skinner West (FOSW): Per D. Clark, FOSW purchased over 200 Chromebooks and worked with Mr. Lomax to distribute them today. The FOSW giving campaign has been a big success, providing items for many families.
- c. West Loop Community News: Per F. Matalka and M. Letourneau, holiday events are occurring around the neighborhood. A suggestion was made to include all school meetings on the Skinner website. The weekly Skinner e-newsletter is open to the community. Skinner has partnered with Chicago Children's Theater for an installation in January.

5. Committee Reports

- a. Chairperson's Report: No report.
- b. Principal's Report:
 - i. Skinner kids have been touring the neighborhood singing holiday carols: Bartelme Park, Mariano's, Palmer House, CNA, Whole Foods, etc.

- ii. CNA provided a \$15,000 donation to Skinner.
 - iii. The Achieve 3000 purchase order has been approved.
 - iv. Committee meetings have been held.
 - v. Skinner hosted a ComEd & Peoples Gas event held by Congressman Danny Davis.
 - vi. 2016 PARCC test results are coming home tomorrow.
 - vii. Teachers have completed personalized learning expectations.
 - viii. Selective enrollment application and sibling lottery application deadlines have passed.
 - ix. Mrs. Clark visited Talman School for a peer observation.
 - x. A call for volunteers will be coming out for parents to help perform network configurations for the new Chromebooks.
 - xi. The holiday concert for parents is on Thursday and classroom holiday parties on Friday.
 - xii. Winter break starts on Friday with kids returning on Tuesday, January 2.
- c. Professional Personnel Leadership Committee (PPLC): Per D. McSpadden, the committee met on December 5 to talk about the new teacher handbook. Future meetings have been scheduled. Teachers in grades 6-8 discussed coursework to provide vertical alignment.
 - d. Special Education/LRE: Per R. Werner, the committee did not meet, however, MedFest (held on December 7) was a success. The event took place at the United Center where the group was able to meet some of the Blackhawks players.
 - e. School Improvement: Per S. Hobson, the committee met on December 6 to discuss restorative justice and superstar good behavior. At Skinner, 79% of students meet or exceed grade level for math and reading. The committee brainstormed about indoor recess activities, talked about the Chromebook configuration volunteering, and discussed the state school budget veto. The next committee meetings will be held on January 18.
 - f. Facility Services: Per F. Matalaka, the group met to discuss the heating units on the roof, bathroom sensors on the third floor (which will now be replaced with manual devices), an upcoming meeting about the camera surveillance system, the gymnasium power outlets and lighting, using the gates on Adams and Monroe to stop vehicles from driving on the sidewalk west of the school, and adding school zone signing and flashing stop signs at Adams and Throop. The committee also talked about measures that will be needed during construction of the expansion this summer and next school year. This may lead to a "kiss and go" system for drop off after the construction is complete. The committee will next meet on January .
 - g. Communications: Per D. Clark, the committee met to discuss the new Skinner logo. The Skinner website upgrade continues, with some samples available to review.
 - h. Bilingual Advisory Committee: Per F. Matalaka, the committee hosted its sixth "Around the World in 80 Dishes" event on December 17 at MingHin Cuisine in Chinatown, where 14 people attended. The BAC bulletin board is now highlighting holidays around the world, with Chinese New Year to be the next topic. There will be performances related to the Chinese New Year. The committee will have its next meeting on January 11.
 - i. LSC Advisory: Per M. McMurray, no report.
 - j. Expansion Committee: Per M. Flowers, the committee held a meeting on December 7. Richard Flowers was elected as the Vice Chair of the committee and Ms. Mica as the Secretary. The committee will be more proactive about communicating events related to the expansion. The group also talked about traffic control during construction and some of the commitments that Ald. Burnett made during his presentation on

November 16. The expansion is on schedule to complete design by April, with construction starting in June. The next meeting will be held on February 8.

6. Old Business

- a. None.

7. New Business

- a. None.

8. Public Comment

- a. Leslie Recht (a West Loop resident since 1978) spoke about the importance of keeping Skinner meetings open to the community. She also noted that traffic on Adams is becoming a problem for local residents and suggested that Skinner work with Chicago Police Department (District 12), the Department of Transportation, and local community groups to develop a traffic plan for drop-off and pick up that is communicated to both Skinner families and other community members.

9. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 7:57 pm (S. Hobson, M. Flowers).

Respectfully submitted,
Matt Letourneau
Skinner West LSC Secretary