



**Deborah M. Clark**  
Principal

**Aisha Crump**  
Parent Representative

**Sheila Howard**  
Staff Representative

**Brett Hughes**  
Parent Representative

**Ryan Johnson**  
Teacher Representative

**Matthew Letourneau**  
Parent Representative

**Stephanie Majca**  
Community Representative

**Fadi S. Matala**  
Parent Representative

**Marla Sedler**  
Community Representative

**Melinda Sgariglia**  
Parent Representative

**Nell Strong**  
Parent Representative

**Ramel Werner**  
Teacher Representative

# **Skinner West Local School Council**

## **LSC Meeting**

### **Tuesday June 29, 2021**

### **6:00 P.M.**

## **MEETING MINUTES**

### **1. Call to Order**

- a. The online meeting was called to order at 6:08 pm by F. Matala.
- b. Present were Principal Clark, Assistant Principal Dr. Brown and LSC members A. Crump, , B. Hughes, M. Letourneau, S. Majca, F. Matala, M. Sgariglia, N. Strong, R. Werner. S. Howard, R. Johnson, and M. Sedler were absent.

### **2. Approval of Agenda**

- a. The agenda was approved (W. Warner, M. Sgariglia).

### **3. Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- a. The May LSC meeting minutes were approved (M. Sgariglia, A. Crump).

### **4. Announcements & Public Communications**

- a. **PTO/Forum:** Per S. Majca, the committee met briefly. The group decided to move the cookie dough fundraiser to occur just after Walkathon. The next committee meeting will take place in August.
- b. **Friends of Skinner West (FOSW):** No report.
- c. **West Loop Community News:** Per M. Majca, there will be movies in the park events at Mary Bartelme Park on July 8 and August 28. Skinner Park will host a Latin music event on July 17. Taste of Greektown will take place in late August. Green City Market takes place at Bartelme Park every Saturday morning through October. Work has begun on the reconstruction of the Whitney Young tennis courts.

**5. Committee Reports**

- a. **Chairperson's Report:** Per F. Matalka, no report.
- b. **Communications:** Per L. Kostielney, the committee plans to meet soon. One last newsletter will be sent out for the school year.
- c. **Principal's Report – State of the School Report:**
  - i. The school held a successful in-person (and virtual) eighth grade graduation ceremonies – ten (10) in one day!
  - ii. IAR reading and math testing was completed, as were the Illinois Science Test for fifth graders and the algebra exit exam for eighth graders.
  - iii. The 2021-22 school budget was submitted and remaining 2020-21 salvage funds were used to purchase Chromebooks and other needed items.
  - iv. Report cards are being distributed now.
  - v. The school is considering providing SEL support for the return to school with funding made available by CPS.
- d. **Professional Personnel Leadership Committee (PPLC):** Per Ms. Clark, the committee did not meet.
- e. **Special Education/LRE:** No report. Per Mrs. Clark, the extended school year (ESY) will not be offered at Skinner due to a CPS decision.
- f. **School Improvement:** Per B. Hughes, the committee met on June 3 at 5 pm. The group followed up on questions about a permanent substitute teacher and they identified a new vendor for the Caught You Doing Something Good program. The next committee meeting will be held next school year.
- g. **Facility Services:** Per Ms. Clark, crews are lowering the chimney at the Branch School.
- h. **Bilingual Advisory Committee:** Per Mrs. Clark, the committee did not meet.
- i. **LSC Advisory:** No report.
- j. **Expansion Committee:** Per M. Letourneau, the committee did not meet. A meeting will be scheduled for July 13<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm.

**6. Old Business**

- a. None.

**7. New Business**

- a. The LSC will hold an organizational meeting on Tuesday, July 13 at 6 pm. It is expected that the meeting will be held virtually.

**8. Public Comment**

- a. A. Rzepka asked what class sizes are expected for next year. Mrs. Clark expects higher class sizes in fifth grade.
- b. A. Rzepka asked how many transfers were issued based on investigations into returned mailings. Mrs. Clark noted that the school has been reaching out to families and collecting proofs of residency.
- c. A. Rzepka asked if Google Classroom will be used next year. Mrs. Clark said that Google Classroom will be used for homework assignments.
- d. A. Rzepka asked what teaching positions are open for next year. Mrs. Clark noted that we have two vacancies in the Special Education team; interviews are underway. We are losing Ms. Sanders, Ms. Travis-Brown, Ms. Barnes, and Ms. Battaglia.

- e. A. Rzepka asked about the schedule for setting up the new STEM lab. Mrs. Clark will check with Ms. Sedler and provide an update. S. Rzepka asked that Mrs. Clark schedule a meeting with FOSW and teachers to determine how the lab is to be used.
- f. An audience member asked about summer programs. Mrs. Clark noted that CPS and CPD offer summer programs. Skinner is evaluating options for summer programs.
- g. M. Toy noted that the Skinner Park Advisory Council is moving forward with park improvements. Skinner families are encouraged to participate in an online survey for the proposed Skinner Park fieldhouse: <https://www.skinnerpark.org/2021/06/28/field-house-survey/>.
- h. M. Toy also reported issues with vandalism in the park and is seeking the school's help to address the problem. Mrs. Clark said that she is extremely apologetic about the actions of the students and will work with students to stop incidents like this in the future.
- i. P. Singleton asked about teacher requests. Mrs. Clark directed teachers to email the school at [skinnerwestparents@cps.edu](mailto:skinnerwestparents@cps.edu).
- j. S. Gangrade asked if an open house will be offered for new students (including kindergartners). Mrs. Clark said that the school hopes to conduct an open house, depending on CPS guidance.
- k. A. Crump asked if the first day of school for the fall was confirmed. Mrs. Clark confirmed that the school year will start on August 30 – the week before Labor Day.
- l. A. Rzepka asked if there will be a Star Program next year. Mrs. Clark noted that the Star Program is teacher-led, so it will depend on their decision and other COVID requirements, e.g., pods, distance requirements.

**9. Adjournment**

- a. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm (R. Werner, A. Crump).

Respectfully submitted,  
Matt Letourneau  
Skinner West LSC Secretary