

Abraham Lincoln Elementary School LSC

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 11, 2021

Call to order 6:03pm

Roll Call

In attendance: Litcy, Radhika, Kat, Ursula, Nada, Ashley, Greg, Dr. Fay, Melissa, Jane, Carmen, Paula (6:15pm).

Approval of Minutes

Nada made a motion to approve with corrections Carmen made and Ashley seconded.

In favor: Litcy, Radhika, Kat, Ursula, Nada, Ashley, Greg, Dr. Fay, Melissa, Jane, Carmen

Approval of Agenda

Nada made a motion to approve the agenda and Ashley seconded.

In favor: Litcy, Radhika, Kat, Ursula, Nada, Ashley, Greg, Dr. Fay, Melissa, Jane, Carmen

Guest Speakers

Mr. Herald Chip Johnson, Chief Officer of FACE (Family & Community Engagement).

[Presentation](#)

LSC Member: Community Action Councils?

Mr. Johnson: We have nine CACs.

LSC Member: What will help with engagement and retention in our community with losing students to private schools, suburbs?

Mr. Johnson: Look to creative marketing strategy.school, community, alderman events to highlight Lincoln.

Mr. Johnson: A word of advice: You need to make sure you are welcoming all parents because parents can be mean and “etch their name in the marble”, per se or so ingrained in the school that they may keep other parents away.

Mr. Johnson: Reach out to Berenice Pond at Network 4

Public Participation

Dr. Tinich - Base education should be covered by CPS budget, FOL can cover additional expenses.

Class sizes can be reduced creatively.

Humanities curriculum is a college prep curriculum, kids can have strong academics along with art, music and foreign language.

Supplemental \$\$ should be put in different buckets. Substitute bucket to assist faculty and for kids at risk.

Parent - If diverse learners can be allowed in for 4 days?

Dr. Fay is working with the case manager about this. Some have returned 4 days/week, based on case by case.

Principal's Report

Entry Plan Update

- ▶ [Entry Plan](#)
- ▶ Assistant Principal
 - ▶ I will announce the new Assistant Principal once this become official.
- ▶ My 1-on-1 meetings with faculty and staff
 - ▶ I have met with 50/74 members - 68%

Lincoln School PPLC 2021 Priority List

- ▶ Maintain
 - ▶ Reduced class size
 - ▶ Humanities-based curriculum
 - ▶ Technician/computer support
 - ▶ Guidance counselor assistant
 - ▶ .5 Music position
 - ▶ Textual materials and replacement of hands-on materials
 - ▶ Alignment of resources for humanities-based curriculum
- ▶ Improve
 - ▶ MTSS coordinator
 - ▶ ENL full time position
 - ▶ Add French teacher
 - ▶ Library access K-8
 - ▶ .5 Tech Science Position

Calendar

- ▶ Q4 ends on June 22
- ▶ May 31 is Memorial Day - holiday and non-attendance for students
- ▶ Next week is the fifth week of Q4
 - ▶ Progress reports will be sent home.
- ▶ IAR test
 - ▶ All students in grades 3-8 test from April 26 to May 28
- ▶ ACCESS
 - ▶ 109 students learning English test from April 22 to June 11
- ▶ ISA
 - ▶ Students in grades 5 and 8 test from May 17 to June 2

Staff Notes

- ▶ Assistant Principal Hiring
 - ▶ 3rd round interviews and reference checks are complete
 - ▶ Awaiting official confirmation from the district HR office
- ▶ Diverse Learners' hiring
 - ▶ Due to the new budget allocations interviews for a teacher have been put on hold
- ▶ 7th grade leave (TAT)
 - ▶ Ms. Jenkins is filling this role.
- ▶ When Dawn returns from her leave, we will begin the search for a new clerk.
- ▶ Deborah Nusret, SECA/Pod Watcher, will retire at the end of the school year.
- ▶ I am not aware of any other staff members who will be leaving.

Discretionary Budget

- ▶ I will make a separate budget presentation.
- ▶ We have ordered some paper, art supplies, and general office supplies.
- ▶ We paid Educational Networks \$3,570.00 for our new website!
 - ▶ They will set it up and maintain it.
 - ▶ This price is our annual cost indefinitely.

Enrollment 2020/2021 School Year

Grade	Number of Students	Last Month
Kindergarten	69	69
First	110	110
Second	106	106
Third	107	107
Fourth	101	100
Fifth	105	105
Sixth	96	96
Seventh	95	96
Eighth	105	105
Total	894	894

C.I.W.P. - team met to discuss

- ▶ Instruction: Literacy and Math growth among African American students
- ▶ The team was made up of 15 people.
 - ▶ 25 total people attended the meeting.
- ▶ More details will be covered in the budget report and during the DEI committee report.

Grants

- ▶ Friend of Lincoln has pledged \$500,000 in support for next year.
- ▶ ALESMA has pledged \$130,000 in support for next year.
- ▶ Thank to both organizations for this tremendous level of support!

Professional Development

- ▶ Planning for next year is underway.
 - ▶ I will have more detailed updates next month.

Board Policies and Initiatives

- ▶ The District has stated that their goal is to return to all students having 5 days of instruction.
- ▶ Questions about students returning to Lincoln 4 days per week.
 - ▶ Given our pod sizes, we are unable to open instruction to students 4 days per week.
 - ▶ CPS has a policy that the children of teachers may return 4 days, and we have some students here 4 days.
 - ▶ Some schools may have all or a large portion of their students returning 4 days. This is probably possible due to their enrollment numbers.

Discussion

LSC Member: Remote Learners and IAR test; is there another option? What if they do not take the test?

Dr. Fay: No, no other option to take the test. We would love all students to take.

LSC Member: There is a process to opt out by parents.

LSC Member: How were remote students notified about the IAR?

Dr. Fay: I sent out a notice and Ms. Kosecki emailed families and grade bands. Teachers also sent out notices.

LSC Member: Tell us more about the website?

Dr. Fay: Educational Networks told us 6-8 weeks to be operational. Looking to refine through July and be fantastic by the time school starts. Look at Alcott Elementary and Disney Elementary websites, it'll be a similar layout.

LSC Member: Five days a week, is it official?

Dr. Fay: It is the goal, but not definite.

LSC Member: Annual cost expected every year; with budget fluctuations can the yearly website cost be negotiated?

Dr. Fay: We will get our money's worth over the years.

LSC Member: What about Membership Toolkit; will that go away if the newsletters can be sent via the new website? Maybe that money can be used toward the website annual maintenance?

Dr. Fay: Will look in to it.

Public Comment

Public: I would encourage the school to consider installing a cell tower on top of the chimney as a revenue source.

Public: As a former principal, here are my budget considerations for LSC. Prioritization of need: reduce class size, but remember number one in priority doesn't mean that it gets all the money. When I was principal it's all about being creative. FOL should not cover all of the budget needs but reduce and increase contact of needs; CPS should cover base education needs. The CTU contract tells us the numbers of students in each classroom. When we have high achieving students, teachers can manage the class sizes outlined. Humanities curriculum is a college prep curriculum with strong reading, math, and social studies but should have art, world language and music woven in. SGSA monies, supplement, but do not supplant the budget. To the new principal, you must create buckets to assist the teachers in doing what they need to do. Lastly, LSC members, it is the principal that selects the faculty and has to pick. You must spend up to three times the amount of time in searching who [teachers] comes in to the building.

Parent: For diverse learners, could a consideration be made for 4 day a week?

Dr. Fay: Reviewing case by case with our case manager.

Budget [Presentation](#)

Two objectives: Approve CIWP with addition of strategy number 5 and SY22 school year budget.

Five Priorities:

1. Diverse Learners
2. MTSS: Supported by funding (.5 MTSS coordinator position)
3. Social Emotional
4. Emphasize student voice
5. Support our African American students

LSC Member: Can you talk more about staff reductions?

Dr. Fay: It's the reduction of a position, not a person, in the K-3rd grade because that's where we had 2 extra positions for the 5 classrooms. The other is a .5 band/music position.

LSC : Reduction in Title 2 funds...why was it reduced by \$40,000?

Dr. Fay: I don't know, but will look in to it.

LSC Member: Sustainability given enrollment levels with COVID; what are your thoughts around the potential of reducing number classrooms?

Dr. Fay: Will begin to figure it out.

LSC Member: Teacher salaries; does CPS not cover their increases every year? So then we have to take that in to account every year?

Dr. Fay: They do, but usually not enough. Yes, usually.

LSC Member: J at School; is that not a part of the budget?

Dr. Fay: OST money will come in the summer and will help us out with that.

LSC Member: Can OST monies go towards a third party organization to support?

Dr. Fay: Yes, the District said there will be wide liberations with using those funds.

LSC Member: We need to press on the District's hold on the open position that is still under investigation for now 2 years; we have to be able to hire for that position?

Dr. Fay: Absolutely, I completely agree with that.

LSC Member: 1.6% increase in SBB and reduction of title 2 funds is now less than that so we get less than 1% of an increase to support staff cost increases?

Dr. Fay: Because we don't see title 1 funding, we depend heavily on our FOL support here.

LSC Member: Teacher salary adjustment, we did see this coming in from the District in the past,? For the special education positions, because we're losing one we will have 5 positions here?

Dr. Fay: We currently have 4 special education teachers with the 5th still under investigation. We may be able to use FOL money to pay for a special education teacher. FOL will support 5 positions and ALESMA will support 1 position.

Nada made a motion to move public participation and budget votes before Committee Reports and Ashley seconded.

In favor: Unanimous.

Public: FOL has committed \$500k, but we only have \$200k in the bank so we need to raise \$300k.

Public: We could not collect school fees this year due to COVID. Maybe consider raising the amount next year. We can also now collect e-funds from families!

Budget Vote:

Internal Accounts first

LSC Member: Raise a point of concern...if our enrollment numbers don't come back up after this year of reprieve, it puts us in the position to ask for a lot from FOL when they do not have a cushion.

Nada made a motion to approve 5219882 towards SB.

Ashley: Seconds

Greg: Yes

Dr. Fay: Yes

Melissa: Yes

Carmen: Yes

Radhika: Yes
Kat: Yes
Paula: Yes
Ursula: Yes
Jane: Yes
Litcy: Yes
Motion passed unanimously.

Nada made a motion to pass \$110,804 towards supplemental aid.

Ashley: Seconds
Greg: Yes
Dr. Fay: Yes
Melissa: Yes
Carmen: Yes
Radhika: Yes
Kat: Yes
Paula: Yes
Ursula: Yes
Jane: Yes
Litcy: Yes
Motion passed unanimously.

Nada made a motion to approve \$40,000 towards title 2 aide to reduce class size.

Ashley: Seconds
Greg: Yes
Dr. Fay: Yes
Melissa: Yes
Carmen: Yes
Radhika: Yes
Kat: Yes
Paula: Yes
Ursula: Yes
Jane: Yes
Litcy: Yes
Motion passed unanimously.

Nada made a motion to approve \$631,20 towards Internal Account Book transfer.

Ashley: Seconds
Greg: Yes
Dr. Fay: Yes
Melissa: Recuse from vote
Carmen: Yes
Radhika: Yes

Kat: Yes
Paula: Yes
Ursula: Yes
Jane: Yes
Lity: Yes
Motion passed without Melissa.

Nada made a motion to amend the CIWP with the addition of Priority 5 as stated by Dr. Fay.
Greg: Seconds
Ashley: Yes
Dr. Fay: Yes
Melissa: Yes
Carmen: Yes
Radhika: Yes
Kat: Yes
Paula: Yes
Ursula: Yes
Jane: Yes
Lity: Yes
Motion passed unanimously.

Reports from LSC Committees

Budget - Everything was covered earlier in the mtg. There are funds to be spent, so Lincoln doesn't have to return them.

Building, Traffic and Safety - bump outs at fullerton & geneva to avoid sharp/fast turns for children safety.
In touch with safety committee for air quality in the gym

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) - CIWP amendment 5 is passed. DEI plan was presented in October.
Get parent led network, principal newsletter, etc. for some of the programs mentioned in the above document.

Diverse Learners (DL) - have 1 additional mg this school year, Lincoln should try to fill-in the vacant position

Organization and Outreach

EFAC: 94% students are back, general assembly friday night, everyone is invited to picnic on June 5 at 1pm at Dorothy statue at Oz park to celebrate one of the teachers (21 yrs at Lincoln).

PTA: Next mtg is on June 4th at 10am. Career day is on June 2nd for 7th and 8th graders. Virtual book fair is currently going on. It is the last week to purchase a yearbook. Looking for a secretary position

FOL: Looking for a secretary position. Our budget looks grim, but we've been on this trajectory for 4-5 years where we use more and more of our funds faster which is good as parents that donate see their money spent. We need to look at the bigger picture of sustainability.

ALESMA: None.

Communications: Excited about the new website ans will work with Jerry and Carmen.

PPLC - Wrapping up the vision, will be given to Dr. Fay next week.

Congratulations to Ursula Taylor for being elected to LSCAB.

Adjourn

Nada made a motion to adjourn at 8:50pm. Greg and Ashley seconded.

In favor: Unanimous.