

**Decatur Classical School
Local School Council**

Minutes Meeting on Thursday, November 19, 2015

- Meeting called to order by Tim McCaffrey at 7:15 pm.
- Roll call:
 - Members present: Timothy McCaffrey, Victoria Giambrone, Stephen Lee, Steve Fix (arrived 7:23pm), Susan Kukielka, Marianne Sharping, Katherine Thomas, Roland Paulnitsky, Arthur Regalado, and Norman Gelfand (arrived 7:20pm). Absent: Stephanie Saltouros, Laura Symons.
- Approval of Agenda
 - Amendment: add Snow/Recess Policy as item D under New Business.
 - Motion was made and approved by unanimous voice vote of members present (8 yays, 0 nays) to approve amended agenda.
- Approval of Minutes
 - Amendment: Stephen Lee should be noted as being present in the October 15 meeting minutes.
 - Motion was made and approved by unanimous voice vote of members present (8 yays, 0 nays) to approve amended minutes from the October 15, 2015 meeting.
- Principal's Report
 - Steve Fix and Norman Gelfand arrive at times noted in Roll Call.
 - Principal Professional Practice Competency A: The school received a letter from Forrest Claypool and Dr. J. Jackson commending Decatur's attendance rate for 2014-2015, which was at 95.82%. Mr. Muray checked with each family regarding off-track data pertaining to attendance. Ms. Kukielka met with L. Majstorovic and E. Thievos, Network 2 Data Strategist, to review Decatur's data. A new engineer, Kurt Schreiber, was assigned to Decatur. We share him with Boone Elementary. The State of the School presentation will be given at the end of the report.
 - Principal Professional Practice Competency B: Teacher professional developments throughout the months of October and November were highlighted. The JCC contract is under review by the CPS Law Department
 - Principal Professional Practice Competency C: Decatur's Certamen team competed on November 3, 2015 and guests from Winship Captial Management of Raymond James spoke to the 6th graders as part of the school's participation in the Stock Market Game.
 - Principal Professional Practice Competency D: Key events at the school like the Walk-Thru for Prospective Parents, the PTA sponsored Halloween party, a practice chess tournament after school, and Report Card Pick-Up were discussed. Communications from the school were also outlined.
 - Principal Professional Practice Competency E: Professional development for Ms. Kukielka were outlined (Network PDs on differentiated instruction and REACH observations, training on NWEA MPG)
 - State of the School Presentation: the presentation reviewed key data for the school from the 2014-2015 school year. The presentation will be made available on the school's website.

- Old Business
 - Expansion update: Decatur Expansion Committee members met with Ald. Silverstein on 11/20/15 to lobby the Mayor's office to expand on the current site. CPS has \$45 million to use on physical facilities, but has not decided whether it will allocate the money this school year or for the next budget. Ald. O'Connor is also lobbying on Decatur's behalf.
 - Tim McCaffrey discussed continuing to go to the Board of Ed meetings and again discussed the possibility of students speaking to describe the challenges of not having a 7th/8th grade. The next Board of Ed meeting will be held Wednesday, Dec. 16th.
 - Ms. Kukielka discussed arranging an NWEA Parent Information Night.

- New Business
 - Consideration of Fundraising Requests skipped and will be discussed at another meeting.
 - Principal Evaluation Committee will be comprised of Laura Symons, Arthur Regalado, Stephen Lee, Steve Fix, Stephanie Saltouros and Tim McCaffrey. Motion was made and approved by unanimous voice vote to approve the Principal Evaluation Committee.
 - The Second Grade Curriculum was discussed during the State of the School Presentation as school data in math was discussed.
 - The idea of utilizing a snow blower to clear the playground was discussed. Student safety is always a priority when deciding to have indoor/outdoor recess during inclement/cold weather. Principals use their discretion when temperatures are between 31-15 degrees with or without wind chill. If the temperature drops below 15 degrees with or without wind chill, recess should be held indoors.

- Public Comment
 - No public comment was made.

- Next Meeting: January 21, 2016.

- Meeting adjourned by unanimous voice vote at 9:38pm.