

**Decatur Classical School  
Local School Council**

**Minutes Meeting on Thursday, April 23, 2015**

- Meeting called to order by Jeannette Schar at 7:17 pm.
- Roll call:
  - Members present – Jeannette Schar, Kristin Boeke-Greven, Timothy McCaffrey, Laura Symons, Victoria Giambrone, Steve Fix, Susan Kukielka, Marianne Sharping, Katherine Thomas, Arthur Regalado and Roland Paulnitsky. Absent – Norman Gelfand.
- Approval of Agenda:
  - Motion was made and approved by unanimous voice vote to approve agenda.
- Approval of Minutes:
  - Motion was made and approved by unanimous vote to approve March 19, 2015 minutes.
- Principal's Statement:
  - Staff Updates – Mrs. Coleman has extended her leave until June 19, 2015 and Ms. Allegretti will remain in second grade until the end of the school year; Ms. Cohen is on disability leave until further notice and Mr. SanAgustin will be in fourth grade until her return; there is no new updates on Mr. Vazquez; Mrs. Albert has been released from her SECA duties as the student transferred and she will assist students and teachers throughout the building until the end of the year; Magistra Cohen has been invited by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages to work on National Standards for Classical Language Learning – Congratulations Magistra on a prestigious opportunity!
  - Parent-Teacher Conferences were on April 16, 2015. Decatur had a 98% participation rate.
  - School events that took place after the last LSC meeting were highlighted.
  - The testing windows for NWEA/PARCC were given for the remainder of the school year.
- Old Business:
  - A) CIWP Committee will meet on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am, at school. The committee received 140 responses that will help guide the development/update of the CIWP and how the school will allocate the budget; Ms. Kukielka updated the LSC stating that schools may not receive budgets until June since we may be waiting for state funding.
  - Aii) Principal Evaluation Committee will meet April 28<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. LSC will enter closed session to discuss principal evaluations on April 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.
  - B) Expansion Committee Update – Kristin Boeke-Greven addressed the audience, reiterating that Decatur's expansion to 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade is prioritized in the current CIWP and the vote to explore the possibility of relocating to Stewart was guided by the CIWP. The Committee has continued to explore all options,

including expansion on the current property, but discussions and other movement on expansion were put on hold due to municipal elections. Kristin Boeke-Greven and Jeannette Schar made remarks at the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Board of Ed meeting asking Board members and CPS to clearly articulate the academic path for Decatur students; Board President Vitale responded by stating they recognize this is an issue and that CPS is aggressively pursuing solutions. Committee members followed-up with Ald. Silverstein via email and to date have not received the letter of support that was requested of her. The committee is trying to invite Sen. Silverstein and Rep. Lang to Decatur to engage in a discussion/Q&A on expansion with the Decatur community; While there has been no response yet from Sen. Silverstein, Tim McCaffrey was able to speak with Rep. Lang's office and Rep. Lang is unable to schedule time to come to Decatur until they get out of session. Roland Paulnitsky also mentioned a contact that might be able to ask Rep. Lang to contact Ald. Silverstein on Decatur's behalf. A copy of remarks made to the Board of Ed were given to members of the LSC and will be distributed to the Decatur community the following day.

- New Business:
  - Some Decatur families of the 50<sup>th</sup> Ward have attempted to attend a 50<sup>th</sup> Ward CAPS meeting, but have had no success; Locations for the meetings don't seem to coordinate with what is noted on the websites/calendars of Ald. Silverstein's office.
  - A motion was made to allow Ms. Kukielka to reallocate the budget and come back to the LSC for approval of specific expenditures. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.
- Public Comment: There was public comment.
- Next Meeting: Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:00pm.
- Meeting adjourned by unanimous voice vote at 9:00 pm.