

**SOUTH LOOP ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**LOCAL SCHOOL COUNCIL (LSC)**

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Wednesday, March 9, 2016**

**Location: South Loop Elementary School, Main Building, Cafeteria**

1. Call to order at 6:17PM: Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Roll Call: Shelton, Jackson, Thompson, LaCoco, Easterly, Johnson, Melhado, Stinson-Marti, Fazekas.  
Quorum (9) present at: 6:19  
Pieper arrived 6:22PM  
Sohel arrived 6:25PM  
Agrawal arrived 6:31PM
3. Motion to approve agenda (PJ/KL)  
No discussion  
Motion carries: 9-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain
4. Motion to approve minutes from February 10, 2016 regular meeting (AF/PJ)  
No discussion  
Motion carries: 9-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain
5. Motion to review and approve internal accounting balances (see detailed reports ending **December 31, 2015 and January 31, 2016**) (PJ/JE)  
TABLED: internal account balances for **February 29, 2016**  
-- Discussion
  - December 31, 2015 account balance = \$35,355.09
  - January 31, 2016 account balance = \$45,673.93
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser: total raised to date is \$5500 (not including February; this fundraiser ends March 18; Kid Say is for sports activities
  - Vote: 10-yes; 0-no; 0-abstainMotion to discuss and vote on budget transfers listed in Principal Report Item #6(PJ/SS)

- Transfer \$5000 from 225-51320-290001-000703 to 225-53305-119015-000703 Literacy Consumables
- Transfer \$5000 from 225-51320-290001-000703 to 225-53307-119061-000703 Social Studies Software
- Transfer \$4340 from 225-54305-211210-000703 to 225-53307-119015-000703 Social Studies Software
- Transfer \$2667 from 225-51330-290001-000703 to 225-55005-119064-000703 Physical Education Equipment
- Transfer \$4500 from 225-54210-320020-000703 to 225-55005-119015-000703 Physical Education Equipment
- Transfer \$633 from 225-51330-290001-000703 to 225-51300-290001-000703 Clear Negative Balance
- Transfer \$1459.10 from 225-54505-221234-000703 to 225-54125-219006-000703 Recess Services
- Transfer \$1334 from 225-54205-221234-000703 to 225-54125-219005-000703 Recess Services
- Transfer \$4500 from 225-54205-221234-000703 to 225-54125-219005-000703 Recess Services
- Transfer \$4850.10 from 225-54205-221234-000703 to 225-54125-219005-000703 Recess Services
- Transfer \$4831.26 from 225-57940-119021-000703 to 225-55005-119015-000703 Instructional Equipment Chrome book cart
- Transfer \$3000 from 225-57940-119021-000703 to 225-55005-119015-000703 Instructional Equipment Chrome book cart
- Transfer @2155.90 from 225-54505-221234-000703 to 225-54125-219005-000703 Recess Services
- Transfer \$2160 from 225-53405-21120-000703 to 225-54125-219005-000703 Recess Services

- Transfer \$822.59 from 225-57940-119021-000703 to 225-53305-119015-000703 Literacy Consumables
- Transfer \$4315.90 from 225-54205-221234-000703 to 225-53305-119015-000703 Literacy Consumables
- Decrease Security Bucket # 484368 in the amount of \$8000
- Decrease Office Clerk Bucket #484369 in the amount of \$10,000
- Decrease ESP Bucket #484370 in the amount of \$4800
- Combine 18 ( Office Clerk Bucket) and 19 (ESP Bucket) – those funds will be transferred to 225-53305-119015-000703 for Literacy Consumables
- Transfer \$4750 from 225-51320-290001-000703 to 225-53405-119015-000703
- Transfer \$4357.29 from 225-55095-119015-000703 to 235-53405-119015-000703
  - The above two funds had to be transferred to supplies instead of equipment to purchase the Chrome Book cart
- Transfer \$4970 from 225-51320-290001-000703 to 225-53305-119015-000703 Literacy Consumables
- Transfer \$3082 from 225-51320-290001-000703 to 225-53305-119015-000703 Literacy Consumables

-- Discussion: The above transfers are required due to the budget constraints being imposed by CPS.

- Decrease in security bucket means that Mr. Finney will no longer be able to stay late and provide security during school events.
- Decrease in Office School Clerk means that funding is not available for the school clerk to conduct summer enrollment
- Decrease in ESP Bucket will affect before- and after-school tutoring.
- 3 Chrome Book carts with 30 Chrome Books/cart are being purchased for 5<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade. 30 iPads are being purchased so every classroom k-3 will have five iPads

- Motion carries: 12-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain

**Approve any receipts or expenditures, if necessary** – None this month

## 6. Reports

### a. Principal (Ms. Shelton)

#### *i. School Leadership*

Selection committee for Golden Apple Stanley C. Golder Leadership Award visited the school on 2/26/2016 and interviewed 7 parents, 10 students, the Network Chief and Mr. Butler. Committee praised Ms. Shelton for providing a realistic picture of the state of the school. The selection committee will choose 5 finalists to go through additional screening and one recipient will be honored on WTTW Channel 11 – the winning school will receive \$10,000.

#### *ii. Instructional Leadership*

SLES was selected to participate in the Chicago Public Education Fund's Summer Design Program designed to help educators create and implement innovations that transform student learning in their classrooms or schools. Educator teams from public school across Chicago will engage in a series of sessions designed to clarify a school-based, student-centered challenge, identify new or known solutions in Chicago and elsewhere, and design a classroom or grade-level innovation. SLES' project will focus on talent development and will include support from the National SAM Innovation Project. The kickoff for the program is on March 19.

#### *iii. Student-Centered Learning Climate*

##### **Selective enrollment results**

More than half of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students were selected to CPS selective enrollment high schools.

- 42 of 75 8<sup>th</sup> graders were accepted to selective enrollment programs (19 students from neighborhood, 23 from RGC)

- 23 accepted to Jones (CTE)
- 9 accepted to Jones (Selective Enrollment)
- 8 accepted to Westinghouse
- 6 to Whitney Young
- 6 to King
- 5 to Lane Tech
- 4 to Lindblom
- 2 to Brooks
- 1 to Payton
- 1 to Northside

**Shadow a Student Challenge:** Admin and ILT members participated in a national movement to shadow students for a full day of school during the week of 2/29/2016. Fourteen students, grades 1-8 (as well as Sp.Ed.) were shadowed in total. The ILT will debrief its findings on March 14. Students had great feedback, but adults identified many areas for improvement.

**Big Brother/Big Sister:** 15 8<sup>th</sup> graders have been selected to serve as mentors for some of the higher-need 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> graders. The Big Brothers and Big Sisters are checking in with their little siblings three times per day. The intention is that these students will feel more supported and will, therefore, be more successful. Two additional parents have come forward and requested that their student participate.

**Anti-Bullying:** 8<sup>th</sup> grade committee developed an Anti-bullying campaign: No Hate. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students volunteered to mentor students identified by classroom teachers who need extra support. Wednesdays are designated Anti-Bully Awareness

Day and all staff and students are asked to wear purple on that day. Teachers are addressing the issue during advisory every morning.

Discussion: If a true bullying issue is uncovered the first step is mediation or restorative justice. If more intervention is needed then this takes place during morning meeting with the class. A final step is a parent meeting, moving student classrooms, referral to the social workers, and ongoing coordination with building leadership.

**Camp Duncan Outdoor Education** 2<sup>nd</sup> annual sixth grade overnight trip will occur on March 21. This is a trip to further build community relationships amongst the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and teachers

**Beta Club Springfield Trip:** Our BETA Club attended their National Convention on 2/15-16 in Springfield to compete in a wide variety of activities. They received 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Group Talent

**8<sup>th</sup> grade trip** 37 students are flying to Washington D.C. and New York during the first week of April

**Sports:** 5/6 boys, 7/8 girls. 7/8 boys basketball teams played in the Network 6 Championship Games.

iv. *Professional Development and Human Resource Management*

**In-house PD** Ms. Resh, the resident principal, is leading directed professional development on higher-order questioning strategies and the use of cooperative learning groups to increase the level of student engagement and rigor in the classroom. Teacher teams are using self-directed

afterschool professional development time to collaboratively plan instruction to ensure best practices are used in their classes.

**ESEA/NCLB Conference** Three teachers attended the annual conference hosted by The Center: Resources for Teaching and Learning last month. These teachers focused on high-leverage math and literacy strategies that they can take back to their teams.

**Erikson Partnership (k-3) and k-5 Math support** Ongoing PD and support to create thematic units that incorporate social studies and science curriculum into the literacy block.

**Facing History (5-8)** Ongoing PD and support to create 5-week interdisciplinary units grounded in issues of identity and membership. The purpose is to foster teacher development and encourage conversations about the diversity and assets that exist among the student and faculty population at South Loop.

v. *Parent Involvement & Community Partnerships*

**Alderman Dowell Meeting to discuss Space Planning:** Three parents, resident principal, and Ms. Shelton met with Alderman Dowell on February 22 to discuss space issues and other pressing South Loop issues. She said that she is working on our behalf and that City and CPS officials have acknowledged overcrowding at SLES is a serious issue. While conversations on this issue have been positive and are moving forward, Ald. Dowell acknowledged it's moving slower than we'd like (albeit relatively quickly for Chicago politics). She was unable to give any information on a timeline. SLES representatives asked what could be done to help move the dialogue forward, and her suggestions included: 1) Attend/Speak at CPS Board Meetings; 2) Continue to ask parents to write/email the Mayor's office;

and 3) Have younger students (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders) write letters to the Mayor's office and CPS asking them to solve problems (e.g. bring back the fine arts rooms, rooms with windows, etc. )

**South Loop Around the World** This annual event was a great success with over 150 participants

**Daddy/Daughter Dance** will be held on Friday March 18.

vi. *School Management & Daily Operation*

Due to short-term funding needs dictated by the district, South Loop will see a reduction in spending. The designated spending cap has not yet been communicated.

vii. *Interpersonal Effectiveness*

Email blasts continue to go out addressing issues. SLES Twitter and Instagram is up to date.

Parent-student-admin meetings are held regularly to address pressing issues or concerns.

b. Professional Personnel Learning Committee (PPLC) (Thompson)

Nothing to report.

c. LSC Committees

i. By-Laws (LaCoco)

Nothing to report.

ii. Communications

Nothing to report.

iii. Family Involvement Group (FIG) (Agrawal)

Around the World event had about 150-200 attendees, 18 countries were represented, food was going all night in the cafeteria and performances going on in the little theatre. Ms. Shelton and Jules Melhado headed up the event – ran very smoothly and was a fun event for many families. Lots of positive feedback. FIG has two more events for the year: Fitness Night (planning underway) and Clean and Green Event

(planning will begin soon), this will be around Earth Day and will include both the school's park and Cottontail.

iv. Finance (Johnson)

**Boosterthon** has profited \$41,477.00 as of March 2. This is an 89% collection rate. Majority of donations were online. \$7795.00 is still outstanding.

Approved a budget for **Spring Benefit** and signed the contract for Chicago Illuminating Co. Reviewing catering contract.

Donation of vodka have been made, and hoping to get wine donated. Hoping to have communication out by next Monday – finalizing the design for the communication. Carrie Dahlquist is looking into fundraising software to automate thank you letters whenever someone sends a donation.

v. Least Restrictive Environment (LRE)(LaCoco)

SpEd team is looking into upcoming professional development opportunities.

vi. Principal Evaluation (Easterly)

Next week LSC will receive Excel files to begin the evaluation process. There have been some changes to the process from last year, Easterly will take care of updating everything and will work with Ms. Shelton to make all resources available. Process must be completed by May 1<sup>st</sup>. LSC members must complete their individual evaluation prior to the closed session meeting in April. We will meet in person prior to the April 13 LSC meeting for a closed session at 5:15PM. Our findings will be presented to Ms. Shelton at the May 11 meeting.

vii. Space Planning (ad hoc) (Shelton)

Councilwoman Pieper had nothing to add above and beyond Ms. Shelton's report.

7. Old Business

- a. Discussion and possible vote on whether to have an LSC meeting next month: it was decided at the February meeting that we would meet each month for the duration of the year.
- b. Upcoming LSC elections – deadline was extended.

8. New Business

SLES status as an independent school – with budget crisis, much of the autonomy cannot be exercised.

LSC Candidate forum needs to be scheduled and publicized. Ms. Shelton will work with Ms. Brewer to schedule the date.

9. Public forum

Nothing to report.

10. Motion to adjourn (SS/JE)

Motion approved: 12-yes; 0-no; 0-abstain

Adjourned at 7:00PM