

**Audubon Elementary School
Local School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 26, 2010, 6:30 p.m., Science Lab**

Call to Order 6:31 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: John Price, Ellen Ericson, Barbara Kantrow, Diane Berin, Brendan Gilboy, Linda McBride, Jody Ebstein, Robin Kain, Brian Ortiz

Absent: Mark Ferrante, Patty Jones

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Price amended the Agenda to add a review of the SIPAAA to item #10. Robin motioned to approve the Agenda as amended. Jody seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of March Minutes

Diane moved to approve the March Minutes. Jody seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Review of LSC Meeting Procedures

Ellen announced the procedures for public participation at LSC meetings. If persons attending the meeting would like to comment on agenda items they must sign their name on a sign-up form. Each person may have 2 minutes to comment on an agenda item after the LSC has discussed same. If persons attending the meeting would like to comment on non-agenda items they must sign a sheet entitled "Public Participation." During the Public Participation portion of the meeting said persons can have 3 minutes to discuss a non-agenda topic.

Public Participation

Alex Pramenko complimented Sarah Levens and the Gala committee on a job well done.

Kathy Argentar announced that a new coalition group had formed to address the current state of funding for education in Illinois. The coalition is called "Raise Your Hand." Its next meeting will be April 29. Incoming LSC member, Jill Bass, has volunteered to attend meetings on behalf of Audubon.

Budget and Internal Account Transfers

Principal Price asked the council to approve the following Internal Account Transfer:

1. Transfer \$2000 from 2-1320, Parking Lot Income, to 2-9103, Staff Development.

Linda motioned to approve the above item, Brendan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Principal Price asked the council to approve the following Budget Transfer:

1. Provide Principal with authority to make State 225 fund transfers from April 26 through June 30, 2010, up to and including \$5000 without prior LSC approval.

Robin motion to approve the above item, Linda seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Certify LSC Election Results

Ellen asked the LSC to certify the LSC election results. The new parent representatives are Nick Hardgrove, Maria Griffith, Barbara Kantrow, Brendan Gilboy, Jill Bass and Alex Pramenko. The new teacher representatives are Mrs. O'Hara and Ms. Ebstein. The new community representatives are Patty Jones and Sarah Gallagher.

The LSC voted unanimously to certify the LSC election results.

Review Principal Evaluation

Ellen announced that the LSC had completed its Principal evaluation and that Mr. Price exceeded expectations in all areas. Ellen read aloud the narrative portion of the evaluation.

Principal Price thanked the council for its evaluation and stated that many people are involved in the success of the school. Principal Price is especially thankful for his staff.

Review Proposed Budget and SIPPAA

Proposed Budget

Principal Price received updated numbers for next year's budget from Mr. Huberman. The budget may still be adjusted but our current worst case scenario is as follows. Since March 15, 2010, the city has received their request for a \$400 million pension relief. This relief means that CPS has an additional \$100 million to spend. CPS used this \$100 million as follows: \$34 million to Early Childhood Education, \$20 million to the central office and area level funding, the remainder was applied to school budgets which reduced the classroom size quota from 37 students to 35 students.

For Audubon this means that we will lose .5 of our bilingual position (rather than the entire position as anticipated), Preschool For All is restored, the Spanish position is retained, loss of one special education teacher, no loss of special education aides and rather than a Per Pupil Funding cut of 18%, the Audubon Per Pupil Funding loss will be 4% from last year.

The new budget numbers will also prevent Audubon from having to do a 6/7 grade split, allow Redmoon and Music to continue (however, perhaps not at current levels), allow for the retention of the Math Specialist, and prevent the loss of all after school programming.

Also, Roscoe Village Neighbors Association (RVN) recently gave \$40,000 so that Audubon can continue its After School Reading Support program.

Potential problems that continue are possible changes to the magnet cluster program which could mean the loss of the Spanish teacher, Audubon no longer has an enrollment "cushion", (i.e. if we do not meet our expected enrollment of 431 students next year we will need to give back that portion funds

designated for those students.) The current amount that Audubon will receive per pupil is \$5462. Also, Kindergarten parents will need to pay much larger share of the cost for full day Kindergarten. Audubon needs to pay \$85,000 by June in order to retain the Kindergarten position.

Principal Price asked the LSC to approve the state funding plan. He proposed that the amount given to Audubon by the state totaling \$147,735 be spent as follows: \$113,789 to fund the Math Specialist position, \$23,770 for a parent worker/Office Asst, \$10,176 to pay for technology leasing and network fees.

Barbara moved that the LSC approve the above state funding spending plan, Robin seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Proposed SIPAAA

Principal Price prepared and distributed a document entitled, "CPS SIPAAA Planning Report." The SIPAAA has been developed over the past few months. This year every expenditure must be related to a SIPAAA goal and activity.

Barbara moved to approve the SIPAAA, Diane seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports- Principal/APTP/FoA

Principal Report

None.

FoA

Kathy Argentar stated that they expect to raise about \$90,000 from the Gala. Last year the Gala raised about \$80,000. Everyone is very pleased with this result.

The June Jam will be held June 5 and 6. Cindy Bish is coordinating the volunteers for this event. All parents are encouraged to volunteer at the event.

RVN recently gave \$40,000 to Audubon for the After School Reading Support program. However, should Audubon receive funding for ARS through other grants then Audubon can use the RVN funds to fill another need at the school.

Friends of Audubon is seeking new board members. Board applications are due May 5. The election will be held on May 10 at the FoA meeting. All parents who are present at the meeting may vote.

Adjourn

Jody motioned to adjourn the meeting, Diane seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 8:20 p.m.