

## CSC Meeting Minute

March 21, 2013

Welcome to everyone. Thanks to Sian again for bringing food and drinks.

**Present:** Susan Robertson, Sian Miletich, Wendy Ladner, Jennifer Harris, Betsy Sedig,, Whitney Colley, Debbie Stricker, Lucy Pfeffer, Martha Biery, Ksenia Popke, Sara McDonnell

**Community Members present:** Shelley Harden, Carol Bedin, Jen Fish, Linda Durgin

**Check in with CSC Members:** Working agreements drafted by the Office of School and Community Engagement were presented. Better clarification of CSC roles is still needed. There were questions about confidentiality given that CSC meetings and minutes are public. Someone will inquire with Michael before we all sign the agreement at the next meeting. Community comments moved to the end of the meeting rather than at the beginning.

**Personnel Selection Committee Update:** The PSC went through training with HR at DPS. They held four separate meetings to screen candidates and went to a job fair. They interviewed candidates for first grade and 4th/5th grade positions. Made a recommendation for first grade and checking references for the 4/5 teacher position.

**Safety Committee Update:** The committee met twice, once in February and once in March. The committee discussed goals, priorities and questions that have been received from parents' emails and PTA meetings. Committee members are experienced in safety and risk management.

**UIP Update:** Jennifer went though the action steps on the UIP. She noted that classroom teachers have met with her throughout the year to work on these steps. Some key points:

- The grade level teams analyze the BOE of each trimester. This was done once and will be continued throughout the school year.
- Professional development around CCSS and various interdisciplinary units has been done in one of 4 meetings that have taken place thus far.
- The staff and Jennifer are going to analyze survey results regarding STAR. This year STAR is more comfortable to everyone and Cory is working on next steps that are needed. STAR is mandated by the district. Cory's goal is to send a STAR report to all families but the staff needs to understand it before we share with parents. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not to send home STAR information. Is this for teachers as an instructional tool or is it for parents? Very different from DRA2 so we need to really understand STAR. But now that it is a SPF we might need to send home.
- Jennifer noted that the staff is working more in-depth with data. How many kids are at what level and where do we need to be, for example. Cory is hoping we can look at actual individual kids' statistics and where they are, as well and have interim celebrations when we meet milestones. It will be important that kids are able to look at their own data and "own it." Tammy Giessinger has been able to look at all of the data for each kid and put it together so teachers can see where each kid is in each of their subjects.

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**Parent/community engagement survey results:** Unfortunately, school staff on the CSC had not received the email with the survey results prior to the meeting, and so Susan explained the results with a promise to re-send the materials prior to the next meeting. Everyone will go through the results prior to the next meeting and make notes for a more comprehensive discussion.

Susan encouraged everyone to look at the results as a snapshot rather than as a scientific study (which it is not). There are many positive comments as well as a lot of good ideas (for example, parent sign up sheets for volunteer roles, and putting grade-level writing samples on the website).

**April 18 CSC Parent Forum:** A discussion ensued on the concept of forum:

- Identify desired outcomes
- Identify priority discussion topics
- assign tasks and timeline
- confirm date or reschedule forum

Does the date work for everyone?

How many people do we think will show up?

Should the meeting be informational or discussions in a cafe type situation?

Or should the CSC forum be a way for parents to come and be a part of a community

It was agreed to keep the date of April 18 and devote a large part of the next meeting to planning the forum.

**CSC Nomination Process:** There was a discussion about what the priorities are going to be for the CSC elections. We also need to establish timelines. We should state that we are looking for representation from different groups at Cory. Give examples in explanation for diversity of our population. "We are looking for people who are in ELA, in intermediate grades, choice parents, etc." Then many thought that we could ask those who applied to, "Explain how you meet our various different criteria." (this could be an example of what we said on the ballot). Should we write a fictitious model of how we want the ballots to sound? Susan said she will provide a sample nomination for the next meeting noting we are looking for diversity in our Cory populations.

**Updates on Cory Instructional Model (Jennifer):** Jennifer listened to CSC and teachers and some of the perceptions and confusion is what our model looks like on all levels. She feels it needs to be more transparent and easy for parents as well as students. She surveyed the staff on what they liked about what was going on at Cory and what needed to be changed. She is trying to increase growth in all areas. She wants teachers to still be creative but still work on education. Jennifer went through 6 different options to see which option might work best for Cory. She is trying to focus on creating stability at the school. We are trying to make Cory very predictable without having drastic changes every year based on enrollment.

Teachers came up with the new idea, which is option 6: Developmentally Appropriate Transition Model. The new model is called "Plooping" and incorporates Platooning and Looping. There will be a "homeroom community" in each class that will build the overall community and allow teachers to get to know students better. 2/3 will stay pretty much the same as right now, and 1<sup>st</sup> grade will stay the same with the exception of ability grouping for math across classes. An additional teacher is added to the 4/5 team for 2013-2014.

Jennifer needs from CSC: how do we educate the Cory population on the new model. We should ask people to come to CSC to learn about the new Cory model.

**Agenda for April Meeting:**

- The homework for the CSC is to go through surveys and come to the next meeting ready to discuss the info contained within.
- Set final party date for CSC/PTA/SLT
- CSC elections
- Final planning for 4/18/2013 Parent Forum
- UIP updates and review
- Other

Community Update: None

**Adjourn Meeting - 6:06 pm**