

CSC Meeting Minutes

Date: April 12, 2018

Time: 4:00 pm

Location: Cory Elementary School Library

Cory Vision:

As an integrated HGT/GT magnet and neighborhood school, Cory engages every student in challenging and meaningful learning experiences. We build authentic and lasting relationships within our school community. We inspire students to be globally aware, inquisitive and compassionate individuals. We bring life to learning and learning to life.

Cory Mission (How will we achieve the vision?):

As an integrated HGT/GT magnet and neighborhood school, Cory engages every student in challenging and meaningful learning experiences *through*:

- Differentiated instruction that drives academic growth and sparks the curiosity of every child.
- Explorations of the world around us.
- Opportunities for creative expression using technology and the visual and performing arts.
- A focus on a healthy mind and body

We build authentic and lasting relationships within the school community *through*:

- A focus on social-emotional learning and mindfulness practices.
- Celebrating each other's differences and accomplishments.
- Respectful, caring, and responsible actions.

We inspire students to be globally aware, inquisitive, and compassionate individuals *through*:

- Authentic connections to the community, country, and world.
- Inquiry based learning.
- Service learning and social action projects.

We bring life to learning and learning to life.

Attendees

CSC committee members

- Bill Esbenschade, Co-Chair & Parent Rep
- Tyson Sollenberger, Co-Chair & Parent Rep
- Jennifer Daily, Secretary & Parent Rep
- Jennifer Grumman, PTA & Parent Rep
- Liz Tencate, Principal
- Patty Kozma, Primary Teacher Rep.
- Katie McOwen, 4/5 Teacher Rep
- Angela Alexander, Specials Teacher Rep

Additional

- Joan Wieser, new Principal beginning 2018/2019 school year

Discussion Items

Agenda Item #1	Introduction of Joan Wieser (Liz)
Options/Points Raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joan was welcomed by the CSC, discussion regarding working with the Cory community. She will formally visit all classrooms on May 1st to introduce herself to the kids.
Decision or Recommendations:	No action needed.
Agenda Item #2:	Update: recent teacher hires (Liz)
Options/Points Raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hiring season. Cory placing special emphasis on how well the prospective new hires engage with kids. Most positions have already been filled, still looking for math specialist to support intervention/compacting, many applicants. Work on the mission and vision has also prompted some thinking around what then is the teacher profile that we need to deliver the Cory model?
Decision or Recommendations:	Liz will provide detailed update on staff changes, including bios of new hires, in an end-of year communication.
Agenda Item #3:	Class sizes for next year — are we in good shape on this re para support or any additional needed teachers? (Liz)
Options/Points Raised:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expect that class sizes will be similar, but no final numbers yet, info will come from choice office. Seems likely that Cory will have wait lists. Distribution of paras: first grade has the most (2 FT paras), the number of paras is scaled back by grade as kids get older. In the past Cory has sent home intent to return forms to parents at Cory and Knight. CSC discussed whether it was worthwhile to send out these forms again, however, it is not clear that the forms are reliable source of data and this information is not as critical if we think enrollment is healthy (i.e. not declining).
Decision or Recommendations:	Not going to send out intent to return forms.
Agenda Item #4:	Any updates or news re school curriculum, GT/HGT programs, on-going pilot programs, and/or project-based learning? What are next year's plans in these areas?
Options/Points Raised:	<p>Math:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teachers working to make the last math units really hands-on, project-based learning: i) teachers going to training on capstone projects; ii) grade level classrooms are looking to pull from other curricula used in DPS that has lots of projects. Will likely have meeting with GT office to reflect on what worked in compacting and not working. <p>Literacy: Using backwards design – planning differently. For example, 3rd grade curricula uses Magic Treehouse books, given the number of strong readers at Cory looking for better fit books. Also, working to develop a battle</p>

	of the books program. Also looking at project-based work to better engage kids, and at reflecting on the “so what” or how the book relates to the world today.
Decision or Recommendations:	None
Agenda Item #5:	<p>Several other issues were raised:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Flag raising - by kids 2. The chair noted that the 2 required constituency meetings are done 3. Survey of 2019/2020 DPS school calendar 4. Items to park for next year’s CSC. 5. Filling CSC open positions - update.
Options/Points Raised:	<p>Flag raising</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Came to CSC via PTA, at many schools the kids participate. • At Cory currently done by custodian • Protocol for flag raising, if kids participate need adult supervision. • Preference for flag raising not to cut majorly into classroom time, to be done before school. • Student council? <p>DPS FACE department circulated a survey on the 2019/2020 school calendar; survey was closing on 13 April.</p> <p>Items for 2018/2019 school year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporating more service projects / community engagement. Staff are supportive. Many ideas (food pantry that gives kids in need a backpack on weekend with food, shoe donations, holiday programs, etc) <p>Filling open CSC positions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent positions: voting • Teachers: Lower grades: Brendan. Katie recruiting upper class
Decision or Recommendations:	<p>Flag raising – no change this year, will consider next year. But in meantime, several follow ups: Katie talk to fifth grade team; Liz to discuss with staff; Joan to follow up with how done at Edison.</p> <p>Note: Jen G followed up on the DPS calendar survey – sent in parent post on 13 April.</p>
Agenda Item #6:	Next CSC – 10 May
Options/Points Raised:	

Decision or Recommendations:	4:00 Wash Park Tavern. 30 min for principal evaluation. 4:30 Liz and new CSC members join
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Action Items		
Task to be Done	Person Responsible	Due Date
Principal evaluation paperwork	Liz, Bill	10 May
CSC Parent vote count and notification	Jen, Bill	20 April
Flag raising discussions	Katie, Liz, Joan	10 May