

**Slavens K-8 School**  
**Minutes - CSC Meeting March 11, 2008**

The meeting was convened at 3:15pm and adjourned at 4:30pm  
CSC members in attendance: Melissa Hatchett, Andrea Gordon, Tamara Barron, Kurt Siebold, Jeffra Frank, Kathy Degi, Nancy Larson, Gretel Pavao, and Andrea Moore.  
Also in attendance, our new community member Annette Sulzman.

Guests: Ashley Wolfe, Amy Quinn, Dave Bell and Amanda Gurr

Nancy Larson moved to approve the minutes from the January 8 and February 12 meetings, Jeffra Frank seconded and all approved. (Still awaiting 2/25 minutes.)

*Open Forum:*

A question was raised about the rationale behind the recent meetings Kurt and Melissa had the middle school students and the newly announced middle school policy prohibiting students from public displays of affection (PDAs). Kathy Degi and Kurt explained that teachers have noticed not just a few, but a number of middle school students touching and hugging, which if not curtailed could be construed as inappropriate. The district policy also says that this type of touching is too much. Middle School teachers discussed as a team what they have been seeing such as pushing, hugging, and occasional inappropriate touching and felt it was time to come up with a policy that would apply to all middle school students and would address all types of touching that could potentially become inappropriate. Kurt visited with middle school students to discuss the PDA issues, as well as some inappropriate behavior during the award assembly and the- anti-bullying campaign.

Andrea Moore brought to the attention of the CSC an article in the Denver Post about Colorado perhaps coming to the national forefront nationally on the issues of flexibility of hiring and some of the issues we have been concerned with. Perhaps this is a good time to revisit our letter to DPS about these issues to keep pushing for these important reforms.

Action: We need to keep pursuing options regarding our report cards and will revisit that topic at the next CSC meeting. Andrea Gordon to follow up.

*Budget:*

Discussion: PTA and FOSS have agreed to provide funding next year that will support the same amount of staffing they helped pay for last year. FOSS used to be obligated to pay \$42,000 for music drama but because of district changes that commitment is now \$60,000 for same staff. FOSS has in recent years raised about \$50,000 annually and will need to assess its ability to fully fund these staff positions in future years. The hours of the technology paraprofessional will be cut next year and some of those hours will

instead be covered by the librarian. Some parents have also come forward to offer some support for technology. Office staff hours will be reduced next year. We have funding for an additional first grade teacher but we will not receive a mobile classroom and it would cost about \$200,000 to fund a mobile classroom ourselves. The staff will meet to assess our space needs and to determine where to place the new first grade class.

One of the options on the table is to convert the Tech Lab to a 1<sup>st</sup> Grade classroom, which lead to a discussion on technology and mobile carts. If we use the tech lab for a new classroom then is another mobile tech lab needed for elementary and what can FOSS contribute towards that? FOSS can probably come up with the money for another cart. However, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade class experimented once with using cart upstairs and it was a disaster. Perhaps another cart is not a good investment if the one we have is not an overwhelming success. We can't even plug in enough computers in elementary classrooms (only 3 outlets) which is sometimes necessary. FOSS has 18000 to give towards tech to improve the situation upstairs or help deal with possible loss of tech lab downstairs. Grades 3, 4 and 5 use tech lab to play math games, for presentations, keyboarding and for tech and sometimes for research. Parents and staff want to seek other options for classroom space and are concerned about losing the lab.

Action: Discussed having Kurt send a letter to the community asking for its support in our fundraising efforts in particular the upcoming auction as other recent fundraisers have been down.

Action: Can we use some FOSS money to improve wireless connection – Amanda Gurr will research with DPS or will DPS support that?

Budget approved: Motion to approve school budget by Kathy Degi, seconded by Gretel Pavao and all approved.

CSC funding requests to PTA and FOSS: Kathy Degi moved to ask FOSS to continue to support drama and music salaries plus art supplies and incidentals up to \$60,000. The motion was seconded by Andrea Moore and all approved.

Kathy Degi moved to ask PTA to fund \$80,000 for paraprofessionals as well as ½ FTE librarian salary which was seconded by Nancy Larson and approved by all.

#### *CSC Elections:*

The announcement for upcoming CSC elections will be in the Thursday folder this week and nomination forms will be in the office.

#### *Personnel Update*

Kathy Degi will be the 7/8 language arts teacher. The internal posting cycle is now open for 6<sup>th</sup> language arts then it will be opened outside of Slavens in the second round. Next year we will not have to post and hire in rounds as DPS and the teachers union have agreed to a change in that system.

*Teacher Leadership Team*

The District established leadership teams within each school made up of staff to look at professional development opportunities and how to use extra days for training. Slavens has their staff committee established and have started meeting regularly.

Respectfully submitted: Andrea Gordon