

**L.S.C. MEETING AGENDA  
INTER-AMERICAN MAGNET SCHOOL  
MINUTOS DE LA REUNIÓN DEL CONSEJO LOCAL DE LA  
ESCUELA INTERAMERICANA**

**13 de abril de 2011 / April 13, 2011, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
Oficina/ Office, Inter-American Magnet School  
851 W. Waveland Ave**

LSC members present: Vernita Vallez, Vivian Vasquez, Margaret Aguilar, Luis Vera, Cynthia Ramos, Karen Barbour, Ana Camino, Marisol Morales, Jose Torres, Clifford Meece

LSC members absent: Monica Arce (on Washington DC school trip)

Others present: Mark Smithivas, Johnny LaSalle, Gabby Rosas, Argelia Chavez, Dulce Ayala, Nancy Perez

1. Luis called the meeting to order at 6:14 pm. Self-introductions were made.
2. Audience participation
  - A letter was read from Shajaira Larrier, 8<sup>th</sup> grade teacher currently on the Washington DC trip. She expressed concern about FELE giving a scholarship to a student, superceding teacher and staff decisions. She requested that in the future, FELE give a scholarship each year, but that the decision be made by teachers and administration rather than by FELE.
  - FELE president expressed concern that the letter was addressed to the LSC rather than to FELE. He stated that FELE did not provide any funds for this student. Another parent donated the money, and chose to donate it through FELE for tax purposes. FELE simply facilitated the exchange of the money. FELE had no intention to supercede teachers or administration nor to create a precedent. This was requested of FELE with a very short time frame. In regards to the assumption that FELE has a surplus of money, he stated that FELE actually only has less than \$1000 in the bank. FELE is very short on money, and all money collected is immediately dispersed to the intended recipient.
  - Luis attended the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Taino play. He was immensely impressed with the interest and dedication to learning about the Taino culture and language. Ana also attended and expressed that the Taino presentation was very inspiring and is a clear example of what makes this school special.
  - Dulce echoed the same sentiment, but expressed concern that the unit of study takes a very long time, especially in 4<sup>th</sup> grade.

2. LSC community vacancy – Johnny LaSalle has asked to be our new community representative. Margaret made the motion to approve Johnny as our new community representative. Luis seconded the motion. The vote carried 8-0 with 1 abstention.
3. Approval of minutes - Karen led discussion about changes needed for each set of minutes, and amendments were noted. Karen made motion to approve minutes from July 2, Dec 15, Jan 5, Feb 9, Feb 23 and March 2 with amendments. Jose seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimously.
4. Reports
- a. Principal's Report
- New LSC members need to complete training hours by April 30. Failure to meet this requirement is grounds for dismissal from the LSC. Dr. Vallez passed out a schedule of trainings. Ana shared that previously trained LSC members need to complete 6 hours, which can include participating in school activities. The forms for these additional hours are due to arrive at the school soon.
  - See attachment for complete report. Additional comments were as follows:
    - a. All LSC members are invited to the New Family Open House and reception to welcome new families, share experiences and answer questions.
    - b. Expressed gratitude for translation committee, which is helpful to getting communications out more quickly.
    - c. Our server is on the last leg. There is an urgent need to purchase a new server.
    - d. Piloting a variety of technology options, and decisions will be made once the amount of money collected at the IAMS 3.5 fundraiser is determined.
    - e. Ana asked questions about maintenance contracts for computers. This is still something to be investigated.
    - f. Parking lot – will continue to get money but we have no contract. There is a worry that funds can dry up when the Cubs season ends. CPS has agreed that they will have a parking lot contract by the end of the year (December).
    - g. Cubs gave 800 tickets for next week's game.
- b. LRE – in principal report
- c. PPLC – Teacher-led Professional Development during last 2 months. Teachers began by focusing on celebrations in classroom. They all read an article on multicultural education and worked to determine how celebrations fit into this umbrella. Discovered staff is on a wide spectrum of personal and professional beliefs on these issues. Staff is gaining an awareness of where they are – and how this relates to the Mission and Vision of the school. Discussion around social justice and how this fits in has also occurred. Teachers felt inspired by teacher-led workshops. They have reaffirmed the 7 principles and the mission of the school. Teachers will work to determine next steps. Marisol asked about how open the curriculum of Americas/teachers would be to highlight the African element of Latin American culture. Mrs. Ramos shared how this is incorporated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade curriculum. Still lingering questions about how African influence could be highlighted and not just addressed in terms of slavery. Mrs. Ramos shared that these issues are being discussed in the “next steps” dialogue.
- d. SIPAA – Waiting for a budget. Probably won't have a budget until the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of May, at the earliest. In this second year of the plan, we make adjustments as needed. Dr. Vallez will take reports from teachers and begin to work on the document.

e. Budget –

- \* internal accounts from Feb. and March were shared.
- \* Dr. Vallez shared that we are on-schedule to spend all the money in our accounts, which is what we want to do so that no money gets taken from us. Working on ordering supplies for next year now, so they all arrive before school is closed for the year.
- \* Dr. Vallez has requested additional money from the district for summer staff work, specifically curriculum development. She will let us know status of this request later.

Budget Motions:

- \* Dr. Vallez made a motion to transfer \$22,009 from rollover 124 funds to use to purchase a server (\$5310) and computers for lab (\$1052-15 computers). This money will be replaced with technology fundraiser. Luis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
  
- \* Dr. Vallez made a motion to transfer \$5000 from a surplus fund on the 124 budget line to a new budget line to create \$5000 for double matching Title 1 Library Grant. Ana seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
  
- \* Dr. Vallez moved to approve PAC funds for the following purchases: \$275 for parent resources, \$300 for a parent conference, \$1250 – parent performance (Ocean Annie) and \$1375 for translation equipment. Luis seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.
  
- \* Dr. Vallez made a motion to approve the payment of \$7648 for 8<sup>th</sup> grade from 8<sup>th</sup> grade fundraiser internal accounts. Margaret seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

5. LSC standing committee reports

a. PAC – Dulce reported:

\* There was some discussion regarding spending money in ways that was not voted on during the PAC meeting. CPS did not have a vendor number for Jose Luis Orozco, so that money needed to be spent immediately. Pamela Price approved of this decision. Discussion ensued about how to relate these changes to the PAC members and proper process to follow. There is great difficulty with the PAC process during this first year of start-up. Ana expressed concern that only one person, Dulce, was consulted on this quick spending – and suggested that perhaps more members from the committee could have been consulted.

\* Dulce went to NCLB workshop and met many people who want to come do free workshops for PAC.

- Next meeting is not yet scheduled.
- Pamela Price wants to use IAMS as home for regional meetings.

b. BAC- Dulce reported:

- Next meeting is April 28<sup>th</sup> to talk about Dia del Nino.
- Cancer workshop was great. 20 parents came. Next cancer workshop is May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Hoping for even more parents
- April 16 – There are still 5 spaces available to go to UIC pavilion for Dia del Nino celebration.
- Last movie was a great success. The IAMS community came together and earned \$541.

c. Upper Grades Committee – no report

6. Other Committee Reports:

a. SEP – Ana reported that SEP has gone nowhere this year. Hoping to plan 4 meetings for next year.

b. FELE – Mark reported that Wellness Committee painted playground last week, has installed storage shed for equipment, did beautification on grounds. Potbelly’s fundraiser raised \$400 dollars. Fiesta Cultural around the corner. IAMS 3.5 event progressing well. Congressman Gutierrez coming.

7. Old Business

a. Transportation Concerns – No updates. Our lists are current for now, but don’t know what is happening for next year. We have to wait and see. No new students being added to buses. For next year, all families will need to apply for bus service. We will advocate, if needed, for our families, but no one is safe. We are not able to begin to advocate at this point, because CPS is at a standstill until new leadership is in place and budgets are announced.

8. New Business

a. Future LSC date June 1, 2011 – Cubs game at 1:20 that day. Still move forward with LSC meeting on that date. No change to the calendar.

b. Wellness Committee – Agreed that they could be placed on the agenda as an “other committee report.”

c. Recruitment- in principal’s report

9. Principal Evaluation:

Marisol made the motion to close the session, Luis seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimously.

Karen made the motion to open the session. Marisol seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimously.

Luis made the motion to adjourn the LSC session at 8:56 pm. Margaret seconded the motion. Vote carried unanimously.