

**Local School Council Meeting Minutes
Hawthorne Scholastic Academy
Wednesday, October 6, 2010**

LSC Attendees:

Roger Wilen, Anna Alvarado, Catherine Francis, Amy Lenz, Laura Durudogan, Kris Fiacchino, Carlton Oquendo, Matthew Beaudet, Dan O'Connor, Tiffany Green. (Absent/ Jodi Hoare)

Parent/Teacher/Community Attendees:

(To be inserted from the sign in sheet)

Approval of the minutes from September :

Roger Wilen made a motion to approve the minutes from September, Dan O'Connor motioned to approve and Amy Lenz seconded the motion. Everyone was in favor and the minutes were approved.

Principal's Report:

The Curriculum Nights were a huge success. This included a "Day in the Life" for Junior High Parents and the Mini Book Club events.

Free and reduced lunch applications were sent. There was a lower than average response from the families with only about 31% returning the applications. Currently free and reduced lunches are about 17% of the enrollment and this number affects the money the LSC is given each year. This money is used to fund one full position.

High School open house at Hawthorne was last night and it was a great event giving the students a chance to meet with the various high schools.

Dental Exams were today and tomorrow for those families who wanted to participate.

Changes to the enrollment process for the magnets schools. The forms must be sent directly to the OAE. They are available now at Hawthorne. Other changes have not been decided regarding siblings, proximity, and principal discretion.

Walkathon will be October 18th and 19th and everyone is getting ready for the big event.

Kindergarten pledge drive to fund an aide position was success.

A work order has been approved for new lights in the hallway and should be installed on Columbus Day.

Committee Reports

Financial Affairs (Roger/Laura)

This is a new committee to discuss fundraising strategies. The goal for this year is to look for corporate donors and to facilitate grant writing for specific projects. Laura showed us the projected budget for this school year. If nothing changes the reserves that have been built up over many years could be depleted due to the need to fund teaching positions that CPS will no longer fund. This will be an ongoing topic throughout the year to inform the community on the fundraising needs of Hawthorne.

1st Public Comment

There was a question on reaching out to the alumni for a reunion party and to get them involved with fundraising.

There was also a question about giving the families a chance to pledge on a monthly basis instead of just at the spring fundraiser.

Both items are being discussed and considered.

PPLC (Ms Oquendo and Ms. Lenz)

Carlton Oquendo had the initial meeting with the teachers.

SIPAA (Ms. Alvarado and Ms. Feaman)

\$1400 left in the budget from last year's SIPAA and waiting for it to be rolled over.

Building and Safety (Dan)

No new business

By-laws (Matt)

No new business

PTA (Laura)

A new family buddy system has been established to assist new students who come in at the higher grades. It has had a very good response by the current families to take part in this program. The Walkathon will be the 18th and 19th which is the big fall fundraiser for Hawthorne.

Community (Kris and Catherine)

There have been a series of break-ins in the neighborhood where the homeowners were tied up and then robbed. Police are reminding everyone to keep their windows closed and locked and turn on house alarms. There was an attempted abduction across from Hamlin Park. An alert was put out to all the schools and sent to the families to be on notice. The police are still searching for the assailant. Circus in the Parks is happening now and all proceeds benefit the Chicago park system.

Old Business

Matt has looked into the law about dogs in the park and distributed what the fines for a dog not on a leash in the park. He is going to find out more information to find a way to ensure that dogs are not allowed in the park or on the turf. This may require appealing to the Alderman or changing an ordinance.

Leasing the turf will be ending soon with the onset of fall and winter. However, the gym has been leased out again to Four Corners for Dodge ball.

Public Comment

There was a question about the process of leasing the turf. Ms. Alvarado explained that this is handled by the Real Estate Department of CPS, Paul Morris, who works with the group, and the schools to ensure all the contracts are signed and everyone is compliance. The cost of the turf is \$225 for 2 ½ hours which included the lights. The cost of the gym is \$100 per hour.

The lunch menu has been changed to reflect healthier choices for the children and this menu will be evaluated for changes depending on the response.

This Thursday all the shops at Roscoe Village will be giving Hawthorne a portion of their proceeds for anyone who mentions Hawthorne when buying something in their stores. Last year this raised \$200.

The first PTA meeting will be Wednesday at 9am.

Adjournment

Roger Wilen made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Carlton Oquendo seconded and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03PM. The next meeting will be November 3, 2010 at 7PM.

Notes submitted by Kris Fiacchino, Community Representative