

**Hawthorne Scholastic Academy
Local School Council Organizational Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 9, 2009**

Attendance: Anna Alvarado, Kathleen Andrade, Carlton Oquendo, Sheila Schultz, Kris Fiacchino, Mike Brogan, Laura Durudogan, Steve Poma

Absent: Monica Ginsburg, Roger Wilen

The meeting was called to order at 6:04PM by Kathy Andrade as is the LSC chairperson. Kathy Andrade called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting. Mike Brogan made the motion; Steve Poma second the motion. The motion was approved.

All the members introduced themselves and then all the guests introduced themselves.

Kathy Andrade reminded everyone that these meetings follow the Roberts Rules of Order and there are two comment periods.

Principal Report by Ms. Anna Alvarado.

First Day of Attendance was 99% and total enrollment for 2009-2010 is 559 students.

What is new at Hawthorne?

After discussion with other schools that are similar to Hawthorne it was determined that Hawthorne was grading at a higher level and this may be impacting the scores needed to enroll in the selective enrollment high schools. This finding was presented to the teachers and everyone agreed to change the grading scale. A letter explaining these changes was sent out to the parents.

After School All Stars program is continuing but the After School Counts has been cut due to funding. The After School All Stars program is formatted similar to the After School counts with math and writing and then adding drama and band.

Extra Curricular Activities. Karate will be added on Tuesdays and Thursday at 2:30 to 4PM. Guitar lessons will be added as well.

Parent Handbook is on the website and parents are asked to sign a receipt that they received it. The goal was to save paper. Some copies are being printed out for parents who have requested a paper copy.

New students in grades 1-7 are 21.

PTA fundraising initiatives include the sale of a Hawthorne school year calendar planner for \$25.

Auditorium Floor was suppose to be replaced over the summer. That has not happened as of today. Ms. Alvarado received a letter stating they would arrive on September 7th which did not happened. At this point there is no update. Since the replacement will probably include asbestos removal they room will have to be completely sealed off and there will be a triple closure to ensure nothing gets out of the room. Steve Poma will be following up on this situation.

Curriculum Night will be Sept 22 – 23

Them this year will be Relationships such as how music relates to math etc...

ISAT Parent Report 2008-2009 will be sent home on Friday, Sept 11 for students in grades 4-8. The results did change but not for the overall score. The original results were only preliminary. This will be discussed at the Coffey Talks in the coming weeks.

First Public Comment Section

Someone asked about details of the karate program. The program will be run by Tokun Judo on Montrose though the Japanese American Center. All grades are allowed to participate. The cost will be \$7.50 per hour.

Steve Poma did obtain samples of the turf. One member mentioned that pipes were seen on the turf. Steve indicated they would pick those up. Also we are waiting on a sign that says NO dogs allowed.

Ms. Alvarado mentioned that there is a new bus service Jewel's. This change was very last minute and resulting in lots of confusion the first two days of school.

After School All Stars is for 1st graders and above and starts in October.

CPS has no set standard on grading so Hawthorne can set their own grading scale.

Asbestos removal will only to be done in the auditorium and not the North end of the school.

Kathy Andrade said that she greatly appreciates Ms. Alvarado and Ms. Feaman for addressing the grading scale.

PPLC Camille mentioned that the first meeting will be the end of September. She attended a curriculum mapping convention over the summer that was great and gave her techniques that she can bring back to the other teachers. In October there will be another meeting in St.Louis on mapping.

School Improvement Plan – Ms. Alvarado indicated that this is the year we will be doing both internal and external analysis and she will keep everyone posted.

Budget Kathy Andrade indicated that the SGSA budget is \$73,000 but has not been loaded into the system yet. Currently the system shows only \$1,907.

Building and Safety – Steve Poma mentioned the most important thing for this year is to keep dogs off the turf. Ms. Alvarado has sent out a letter to the neighbors asking for their support. There is an audit coming up and we will be kept posted.

Curriculum – Carlton Oquendo indicated that they have had three days of professional development. The new professional development readings and the pursuit of advanced degrees has changed the way teachers are working together. It has been a great change for the faculty.

Community Kris Fiacchino mentioned that there has been a mini crime wave in the neighborhood the last few days with bikes being stolen and cars being broken into. In addition the park has seen a huge fluctuation of young teens coming to the park. In some cases there have been no problems but in other cases the police have been called because of seeing teens drinking alcohol and smoke marijuana.

PTD Laura Durudogan thanked all the parents that have been helping the PTA over the summer. In particular Amy Seiben for researching and contracting with someone for a new copier so all the materials can be copied at the school vs. going to Kinko's. There is a new fundraiser which will be a walk a thon in October on the Hawthorne campus. In addition the sale of the school calendars have already raised \$4000.

Old Business – Turf field update. The turf is done! Hawthorne will be sending a letter and flowers to Sara Feingholtz, Tom Tunney and the Chicago Parks Department as a thank you for all their support and work to get the turf done. Roger Wilen has agreed to draft the letter.

New Business – None

Public Comment. Someone asked about maintenance for the turf. The turf will need to be groomed and they delivered a sweeper/groomer but it needs a John Deere tractor to pull it which the school does not have currently. So the groomer was sent back under the parks department can buy a trailer to store the sweeper/groomer and the tractor. Ms. Alvarado hopes the landscaper can take on the responsibility of grooming the turf.

Kathy Andrade announcement that the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 7, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05PM.