

# CSC Minutes – October 14, 2008

In attendance: Kent Burger, Zack Bastoky, Grace Hopley, Anne O’Sullivan, Bruce Holland, Leane Poate, Heather Jackson, Lisa Freedberg, Stacey Shigaya and Pat Mauser.

## Greening Committee

The use of current funds from the greening account was discussed. DPS has funded wood chips this year, but there are other needs for the playpark, like trash cans. Mr. Burger said DPS has specific requirements, approved locations and installation requirements for trash cans. The trash cans cost about \$300 each. Since they are not a standard item for campuses, Southmoor will need to pay for the cans. DPS has vendors we can consult. We need one can for the front and one can for the back of the school. There is currently \$10K in the Greening Fund. A vote was taken and approved to purchase and install the two trash cans. Kent will get the details from DPS on purchasing and installing the cans.

DPS Facilities looked at adding containment edging around the bark of the ECE playground. The bark often spills onto the walkway. Recommendation from DPS: keep bark swept into the playground as opposed to pouring a 12 inch barrier for the bark.

Stephanie Stoetzer is doing a great job of organizing volunteers to maintain the grounds. Her efforts and those of the volunteers are greatly appreciated.

## PTA

Eighty Entertainment Books were sold. If the Sally Foster campaign does well, the Entertainment Book proceeds may be donated to charity.

A volunteer for the Pres-Elect is still needed. Elections are at the next general meeting on Oct 21<sup>st</sup>, in which is the SPREE is the presenter. The PTA would consider changing the current monthly board meeting time of 4:00 pm if that is the barrier to volunteering.

## SPiE

Great were awarded totaling \$15,000: CU science for grades 3, 4 and 5 (traditional and HGT students), SPREE transportation, a visualizer for the modular unit (Grade 4), updates to the PC lab, Ameritowne, Colonial Focus and expansion on the PATCH system for gym.

## Teachers

The possibility of allowing the children of Southmoor teachers who do not live in the boundaries to choice into the school was discussed. When Slavens was considering this option, they were told it was the decision of the school, so Slavens had a community forum. It was decided that CSC would discuss this option at the Community Forum planned for March 2009.

## Parents

The content of the candidate speeches for Student Council was discussed. Mr. Bastoky, one of the teacher sponsors, acknowledged the issue and explained that although all speeches were screened, some of them sounded one way on paper and came across another way the day of the speeches. It was agreed that there is a fine line to what is and is not appropriate, and this issue will be kept in mind next year.

Class size was discussed with regard to allowing choice students into the school. Mr. Burger explained that the school receives its funding based on aggregate enrollment, without regard for grade level enrollment. In order to avoid split grade classes in traditional program for grades 3-5 or losing a teaching position, the school needs to maintain an aggregate enrollment of about 451 or a student:teacher ratio of 23:1. In order to do this, the school needed to add students. Choice students are chosen based on DPS parameters, which is a computerized lottery. Some choice kids come with an "attachment" i.e. sibling(s). Sometimes when a choice student is picked to attend the school, we also get his/her sibling who is in a grade level which has high enrollment. Ten students have been choiced in since beginning of school year, which includes their siblings.

Is the para time allocated to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade enough? The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teachers decided how to allocate their para time for their classrooms (3 hours per day for each class). Southmoors' para hours were approved a month before other schools since we were in high need of paras.

There is a new interim GT teacher who works with kids each Thursday who have been identified via testing. His staff member is also conducting professional development for teachers. She is currently conducting a unit on differentiated instruction.

### Safety

Signs at drop off asking people to remain in their cars were taken and have now been replaced. It was agreed that the parking situation is an on-going struggle and we're doing what we can.

### School Improvement Plan (SIP)

SIP is due tomorrow, so the Discipline Plan will be discussed at a later date.

The SIP Action Plan was reviewed with the following discussion/feedback:

- Writing in class could be integrated with Specials assignments to meet the writing needs of the SIP. The definition of a "published piece" is also needed (Objective 2, Strategy 1). This will be discussed at team level meetings.
- It would help parents if the rubrics were shared at Conference Time and/or by sending the rubric home with corresponding student work.
- Staff and parent school culture surveys are being developed by Office of Intentional School Culture and should be distributed soon.
- The school-wide discipline plan is being developed now.

### Proposed Calendar

The proposed calendars for 2009-10 and 2010-11 were discussed. The rationale of late start vs early release was discussed, but no one was aware of why late start was chosen over early release. There is an online survey asking for feedback on the two calendars. The last question asks for one's preference on late start versus early release. It was noted that there is no Kaleidoscope on late start days, which may cause a hardship for some families.

Staff and parents are urged to take the online survey and to encourage others to do the same. Pat Mauser will send an email reminder to parents to take the survey.

The next CSC meeting will be held on November 11 at 6:15 pm.