

The Mary Lin School Council met in regular session on Wednesday, January 30, 2007, at 3:00 pm in the Principal's office.

**School Council Members Present:**

Kristal Manning and Chante Blackwell (Teachers), Wendy Leonard , Amy Baxter (Parents), Paula Kupersmith(Business), and Brian Mitchell (Principal). Cheryl Mason was not in attendance but was in Council training with APS LSC Liaison, Terrolynn Perry-Ponder, onsite.

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 3:15pm.

**II. Approval of Agenda**

**III. Recognition of Visitors**

No visitors were present.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

**V. Old Business**

- School Communication: We will provide Boyd Baker more information about our school council and regular minutes posted to the Mary Lin website. Minutes from this year and last year will be posted as well.
- Vote and approval of Wendy Leonard becoming secretary and Cheryl taking the back-up position.
- Brian provided verbal update of information for sections 5: 5.24, 5.25 as per GA bylaws. He is still compiling and typing the remaining information and will have it ready for the February Council meeting. Several Council members expressed willingness to help in the process if necessary.
- Brian updated us on the question Chip brought up in December regarding scheduled building improvements mentioned at a CINS meeting. These improvements include replacing windows for the "old side" of the building because the current ones are not closing properly. This will take place over the summer. During the 09-10 school year, the wood floors will be redone.
  
- Brian updated us on a status of security improvements and his meeting with Chief Sands. There has been a camera installed on the backdoor. There is discussion of trimming trees or moving camera for visibility on the playground. The back doors leading to the portables will have windows cut in them by (TBA). The work order has been placed. We have requested a window also be cut in the Hall House door and a sheltered walkway be installed over the path to the Hall House.
- Amy volunteered to follow up on a previous question regarding student success after moving on to Inman. There has been no progress on a survey of parents to inquire about happiness or achievement of new 6<sup>th</sup>

- graders. Amy will spearhead that process and will look into a Survey Monkey survey geared towards parent feedback on readiness. It was mentioned that Brandon does a similar survey and perhaps we could get some input from them. Kristal would seek input from teachers on any specific items that would interest them in such a survey.
- Other Old Business from previous meetings not discussed:
    - Update on actual usage of Core Knowledge materials, teacher comfort level with program, and possible mentoring program of trained and untrained teachers.
    - Cafeteria Committee's request that the Council select a representative for involvement in the APS selection of a new food service provider.
    - Attendance targets

## **VI. New Business**

- Technology committee update: Thin Client moved to March. Extensive discussion surrounding what the Council can do to support this process. They are struggling in their communication process with APS in that they ask questions of APS, the answer is then later provided to Brian via email, who must relay it to the committee with inevitable email misinterpretation. Other APS schools who have successfully implemented Thin Client had their technology committee work directly with APS with the most effective model being biweekly meetings with the tech committee and designated APS personnel. After asking John Downey what he required to improve the Tech Committees communication with APS, he felt bi-weekly group conference calls would be beneficial, increasing to weekly group conference calls starting one month before implementation. We discussed that the tech committee is working with the correct point person, Karen Wright, at APS and the need for this is to have the technical expertise of the committee interacting directly with the key APS resources so that the communication would be more efficient and effective. While APS has been responsive to all meeting requests in the past, at this point in the project, physical meetings are no longer always necessary but a continual flow of speaking communication is crucial to successful Thin Client installation and use of PTA tech/auction funds.
- Paula updated us on the Jan 28 Inman Middle School LSC meeting she attended at their Chair, John Webster's, invitation. Also present were LSC reps from Centennial and Morningside. The meeting highlighted the need for better communication with the school board, APS, and SRT3 LSC's, with special emphasis placed on broader community conversations about Enrollment, Leveling policies, and Targets as these issues affect all SRT3 schools in varying degrees and circumstances.
- Inman is asking for support from their feeder schools at their next LSC meeting. They are hoping to have Gloria Patterson, Dr. Dyer and Kevin White to attend and listen to their position on Enrollment, Leveling and

- Targets. The Lin Council voted to have the Chair and a parent representative attend next Inman LSC.
- We discussed the issue of requiring yearly completed registration/enrollment packages. We voted to support that, going forward, new information be gathered yearly from every registrant. We discussed a possible incentive for early registration could be the ability to request a specific kindergarten teacher in order to better project kindergarten enrollment as this number is one of the greatest determining factors in class sizes for subsequent grade levels.

## **VII. Adjournment**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:40pm.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, February 27, 2008 at 3:00pm in the principal's office.