

Audubon Elementary Local School Council
Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 14, 2011 – 6:30 pm – Community Room

Call to Order 6:30 pm

Roll Call (LSC Members introduced themselves)

Members Present:

Phyllis (O'Hara) Ryan, Faculty Representative
Barbara Kantrow, Parent Representative
Jill Bass, Parent Representative
Maria Griffith, Parent Representative
Nick Hardgrove, Parent Representative, Secretary
Alex Pramenko, Parent Representative, Chairman
Joyce Nakamura, Interim Principal

Members Absent:

Brendan Gilboy, Parent Representative, Vice-Chairman
Jody Ebstein, Faculty Representative
Abby Levin, Staff Member
Sarah Gallagher, Community Representative
Patty Jones, Community Representative

Approval of Agenda

Maria Griffith moved that the Agenda be amended to allow discussion of the Principal Selection Sub-Committee's Timeline as the first item of discussion concerning principal selection. Barbara Kantrow seconded the motion.

The Agenda was unanimously approved, as amended.

Approval of October Minutes

Phyllis Ryan moved that the September minutes be approved, Maria Griffith seconded the motion.

The October minutes were unanimously approved.

Review of LSC Procedures

Chairman Pramenko indicated to the audience that participation at LSC meetings will be the same as it has in previous years:

- i. Agenda Item introduced
- ii. LSC discussion is had

- iii. Audience members who signed in to speak get 2 minutes.

At the end of the listed agenda items, audience members who have signed in to speak on non-Agenda topics get 3 minutes.

Principal Selection Committee

Maria Griffith reported that the Principal Selection Committee (the “Committee”) had met twice and that she has created a document of Key Milestones for the Committee that she would like approved by the LSC.

The main items being worked on currently by the Committee were: 1. They have established a working timeline, 2. They have decided to create principal selection related questions for the parent survey, 3. They have created a draft Job Description for discussion and approval by the LSC (for the Job Posting), and 4. They have identified key roles and tasks and assigned Committee members accordingly.

Additionally, Maria indicated that they had established sub-committees to address: 1. Communication to the Public, 2. Creation of a resume review rubric, 3. Creation of Interview Questions, and 4. Candidate Contact.

Ideally, the Committee would like to select 10-12 applicants to participate in the first round of interviews. They would invite 5 or 6 candidates back for 2nd Round interviews. And, ultimately invite 2 to 4 of them to participate in a public forum.

The Job Description needs to be approved so that it can go in by November 30th for posting.

It was further noted that the largest pool of candidates is generally available in January and March, and that the Office of Principal Preparation and Development (the “OPPD”) will provide the LSC with a candidate profile along with the resumes (but only for the candidates who had already been qualified by the OPPD, so the LSC should not give undue weight to those profiles as compared to those of candidates who have not yet completed the OPPD qualification process).

There was some discussion had concerning the upcoming Parent Survey.

The discussion was opened up to **public participation** where questions (and answers) included:

Where will the candidates come from? (They all have to be qualified by the OPPD by the end of February. But candidates can come from anywhere.)

The last Principal Selection Committee did a great job, is there any carryover knowledge or people from that committee that could help with this process? (Yes, both knowledge and people.)

To what degree are the teachers involved in the process? (Teachers have met and fleshed out what they would like to see in the next principal. Also, the teachers would like to sit in on the 2nd round interviews.)

How big is the candidate pool? (Roughly 200 right now. More will qualify in January/February.)

At the close of the public participation, Committee Chairperson Griffith asked for LSC approval of the Job Description and the Key Milestones.

First, the LSC discussed the Job Description that the Committee had developed. After much discussion, the consensus was that one sentence would be removed from the 2nd paragraph (“Intentionally ... core curriculum”), the word “deep” would be removed from the 8th and 9th bullet points, and a new bullet point (“Spanish proficiency a plus”) would be added after the 14th bullet point, and the other bullets shifted to accommodate.

Phyllis Ryan moved that the job Description be approved as amended. Nick Hardgrove seconded. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Next, the LSC discussed the Key Milestones timeline Committee Chairperson Griffith had prepared. Nick Hardgrove motioned that the Key Milestones be approved, along with a grant of power to the Committee to alter the Key Milestones from time to time, without necessitating the calling of an emergency LSC Meeting. Maria Griffith seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

LSC New Member

Chairman Pramenko indicated that the LSC had to officially accept former Principal Price’s resignation, and to formally approve the addition of Interim Principal Nakamura. Nick Hardgrove motioned to drop John Price, and add Joyce Nakamura as a member of the LSC. Maria Griffith seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

SIPAAA Report

Assistant Principal Eric Fay presented a summary of the ISAT results for consideration in preparing the next SIPAAA. Mr. Fay presentation showed: (1) Audubon’s ISAT trends over the last 10 years, (2) a comparison of Audubon vs. all Illinois schools, and (3) Audubon’s performance vs. that of various sub-groups of students (ethnic minorities).

Highlights of the presentation were that:

- Audubon has improved from having 45.5% of its students meeting or exceeding ISAT growth expectations in 2001, to 89.2% of its 2011 students meeting or exceeding grade level expectations in those subjects. (The 2011 Illinois average is 82.1%.)
- We were 1st out of 76 AMPS schools in Math, 7th in Reading, and 2nd overall, in terms of meeting our expected ISAT growth.
- The percentage of Audubon students in the bottom quartile of composite ISAT scores has steadily dropped from over 30% in 2001 to 15.3% in 2011. (The state bottom quartile has remained at 25%, which is reassuring, it being the bottom quartile and all.)
- This is the first year that Audubon has had all of its 8th graders meet the ISAT bottom quartile requirement.

- Audubon has improved from having about 30% of its students performing at or above grade level in Reading, Math and Science combined in 2001 to 56.7% of its 2011 students. (The 2011 Illinois average is 50%.)
- The effectiveness of ARS program is evidenced by the decreasing number of Audubon students in the bottom quartile for Reading in the last two years.
- In terms of the extrapolation of ISAT scores to future ACT scores. 46.2% of 2011 Audubon students score well enough on the ISAT to likely achieve an ACT score that will get them into college (as opposed to less than 20% in 2001).
- 61% of Audubon's lower achieving readers in grades 4th through 8th made their expected gains.
- In Math, 71% made expected gains.
- In Summary:
 - Audubon's "Meets/Exceeds" growth has basically doubled in the last decade
 - Audubon is about 7 percentage points above-average in terms of "Meets/Exceeds" growth
 - Students who are below grade level are more likely to make expected gains
 - Continued growth for higher achieving students will require improved instructional effectiveness

The SIPAAA will be written by the LSC with input from Teachers, Staff, Parents and the Assistant Principal. It was noted that the SIPAAA is a changeable blueprint, but if it is in fact changed, money needs to be re-allocated.

Public Participation

Audubon is working on relationships with high schools, and tracking former students. Lakeview High School partnered with Blaine for an Arts Program.

Committee Reports

None

Announcements

Homemade Pizza company is have an Audubon day tomorrow, where for every pizza ordered, \$ 5.00 goes to Audubon.

Adjournment

Barbara Kantrow moved to adjourn, seconded by Phyllis Ryan. By unanimous vote, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43.