



FOLPHS AUGUST BOARD MEETING

MEETING MINUTES: 9.13.22

In-person/LPHS Room 103 (Community Room)

www.FOLPHS.org

FOLPHS@gmail.com

Welcome and Call to Order: 6:32 pm

Officer's Reports

Principal report: Dr. Steinmiller

Dr. Steinmiller provided a schedule/program update. Some classrooms remain oversized primarily impacting Sophomore grade of 574 students. He appreciates everyone's support and patience, particularly our amazing teachers who are managing through it. Leveling occurs every year and is not unique to LPHS. Per CPS/CTU contract, there is a relatively new process to submit additional staffing and overtime hours for committee review. CPS committee meeting Sept. 14th to review LPHS request and Dr. Steinmiller is hopeful LPHS can fully resolve as early as Monday, Sept. 14th. There has been a temporary pause on any schedule changes, including leveling, so issues can be resolved fully. Request includes Social Sciences (Sophomore level), Spanish II, two Math classes as well as OTH (overtime hours) for Art, two PE classes and English (Senior level). There are already plans in place with associated teachers and students are being notified directly. Any remaining schedule changes have been identified based on least disruption to student schedules.

Dr. Steinmiller wants to thank FOLPHS for their support of back-to-school activities. For those who were not able to attend the Back to School Bash, there were giveaways, performances, activities and overall, it was a fun way to kick start the new school year. He also wants to thank the Quick Start volunteers as well as parents who showed up to assist with the first week of school. The turnout was amazing.

LPHS is excited about upcoming Homecoming week Sept. 19th-22nd including pep rally on Wed @ 2:30pm, football game on Friday and Homecoming dance on Saturday from 6:00-10:00pm at the Hyatt Regency. Last year, approximately 1,000 students attended the dance and this year with no masks/ability to serve refreshments, expect attendance to increase.

Strategically, LPHS will be focused on building a 6-year support system with academic and emotional support from 8th grade year to post-secondary activities (i.e., 6 years). Students should not wait until junior year to learn about GPA, Advance Placement exams, post-secondary opportunities, etc. Example: curriculum night has been expanded to "How to Be Successful in High School." Teachers will continue to provide curriculum overview but there will also be

sessions on what it means to be an “IB for All” school, the importance of the freshman year, postsecondary planning, staying healthy and balanced and making good choices. Additionally, there is continued investment in students’ emotional learning. Examples include 2 youth intervention specialist positions, 3 social workers, modifying dean role to Student Support Advocate as well as continuing to work with Director of Culture on ways to de-escalate situations and get to root cause of why behavior situation is occurring. Goal is to support the success of all our students.

Q&A/General discussion:

Regarding schedule changes, how were students identified and was there opportunity for students to volunteer? *Asking for student volunteers can open difficulty. Dr. Steinmiller did meet with department chairs, teachers, counselors, and new programmer to identify the best solutions. In some cases, teachers recommended clusters of students who have established relationships with each other. We also have goal of swapping one class/new teacher vs. having to scramble a student’s entire schedule. There was also conscious effort to keep similar classroom vicinity.*

Regarding athletics, what is parent expectation of fundraising and transportation? Example: each JV family being asked to raise \$825 through Snap!Raise to replace net and due to equipment challenge, home games have been diverted to Taft and parents are transporting. *Brad Kessler/LSC and Dr. Steinmiller both indicated that this is a great example as to why a full time Athletic Director role was funded as there has not been a central voice providing oversight including the forecast of equipment and transportation needs. The LSC has already voted to fund the volleyball equipment. Transportation is funded and coaches have an established process to submit transportation needs. Our new Athletic Director will be meeting with coaches as well as the athletic booster club to discuss the new procedures and increase communication across all groups. Any external fundraiser needs LSC approval. That includes any booster organization external to CPS. Moving forward, we are working to implement a streamlined, consistent process.*

President report: Sabrina Spitznagle (Voting Member)

Appreciates everyone for their continued work. Please reach out if you would like to get further involved.

Vice President report: Kristen Feurer (Voting Member) – no report

Treasurer report: Ellen Zickman (Voting Member)- no report

Secretary report: Sarah Portugal

Moved to approve August Board meeting minutes. Unanimous approval from all 12 voting members.

Committee/Director Reports:

Open House - Beth O'Connor and Michele Berman (Voting Members)

Open House will occur on Saturday, Nov. 5th with doors opening @ 11:30am and event running from 12:00am-4:00pm. Mr. Stucky has advised CPS so event can be published on GOCPS. Committee is also in process of notifying local schools. Beth/Michele to share high resolution image with Rebecca and Sabrina to publicize event across social media, newsletter, and marquee. There will be 3 different workstreams so will need an abundance of volunteers. Sabrina has student volunteer spreadsheet from 2019 if needed. Volunteers will be wearing custom LPHS Open House t-shirts. There will be welcome sessions in main auditorium with jazz ensemble playing but no mandatory IB session. Students will guide tours and parents are able to choose their adventure to allow for flow and flexibility. Clubs, spirit wear and merchandise from local vendors will also be part of the event.

Fall Fundraiser & Kick-Off Party- Sabrina Sptiznagle, Suzanne Royner and Kristen Feuer (Voting Members)

Originally, fall fundraiser was coordinated with curriculum night but as curriculum night theme has been expanded to include students, it no longer makes sense. Date has been moved to Wednesday, Sept. 28th at Ranalli's. Theme is "Pride Pledge. We're Back! Please help us lift up LPHS one student and one donation at a time." This will be a casual "adults only" event with appetizers and cash bar. Campaign is scheduled to run 7-8 weeks with weekly incentives: raffle, swag, etc. Progress "thermometer" will be visible on marquee. Fundraising emphasis will be Smart Boards in addition to other academic and social needs supported. Sabrina to submit Fall Fundraiser at next LSC meeting for approval.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusions - Venecia Sanchez (Voting Member)

DEI speaker is not available for the October dates previously identified. In reviewing contract, speaker fees were Zoom vs. in person. In person would be outside budget. Suggestion to discuss with Tom Golebiewski/LPHS Director of Climate and Culture regarding his ideas and availability. Agree to table until spring.

Current, DEI Cookbook has 61 submitted recipes and needs a minimum of 75. Deadline is Sept. 15th. Rebecca to research metadata of a LPHS picture for committee to use as on cookbook cover. Still plan to release cookbook in time to sell at Open House. An estimated 16 have been sold through Neon app but expect more once messaging shifts to purchasing cookbooks.

Will add content to website celebrating Spanish Heritage month.

Communications- Yelena Spentor- (Voting Member)

Yelena discussed importance of having one chance to make first impression as well as achieving the right balance of communication frequency. There is further opportunity to coordinate and streamline communications across LPHS groups. Currently, there is not a central resource in charge of communication as it depends on content of message as well as distribution channel. There was general discussion regarding frequency and content of newsletters including Constant Comment as well as opportunity to highlight positive initiatives taking place at school and/or creating more material like "101 for Freshman Parents communication, ABCs of Lincoln Park, or Meet the Staff" segments.

Two LSC members, Rebecca Eden and Brad Kessler were in attendance and informed the group that LSC has created a sub-committee on communications which is meeting this Friday, Sept. 16th @ 3:30pm. Anyone is encouraged to attend the meeting as there may be opportunity to coordinate efforts to address. LPHS is also revamping school website.

Community Fundraising- Jodi Torzewski (Voting Member)

Approximately \$400 raised @ Chipotle fundraiser. Reminder of upcoming fundraiser for 3 Lou Malnati's locations on Sept 27th from 11:00am-10:00pm (Old Irving, LP and Lincoln Square). Jenni's has agreed to host an ice cream social from 3:00pm-6:00pm specifically for FOLPHS. Tentative date of Tues., Oct. 11th but may change as Monday is Indigenous People holiday so won't be able to publicize event day prior. Recommendation to use signage at all school entries to advertise ice cream social. Community Fundraising will continue to focus on 3 fundraisers per semester. For all fundraisers, advertising is scheduled one week prior to event.

Spirit wear- Ellen Zickman (Voting Member)

Ellen provided an update on behalf of Therese who was not in attendance. There have been 3 merchandise sales days totaling \$6,300 with new inventory in process.

Social - Kristen Feurer (Voting member)-

Homecoming dance (Sept. 24th) is a Hollywood theme, "Lights Down/Action." There will be a Sign up sent out for Homecoming Chaperones. General discussion regarding process to purchase tickets. Dr. Steinmiller indicated LPHS is following same protocol as last year. Ms. Theus sent students an interest form. If student responded, they would receive link to purchase tickets. If parents have questions regarding Homecoming Dance, please check with student first as they were emailed information.

There are plans for a Winter formal in February as well as Prom. Dates are TBD. There was suggestion to change prom to Junior/Senior event.

Teacher Appreciation Committee- Sabrina Spitznagle and Kristen Feurer (Voting members)

Huge thanks to Kristen on an amazing Welcome Back breakfast for faculty and staff. Planning on Taffy Apples in October and will table any further discussions regarding Teacher Appreciate events in spring.

Social Media- Debra Sitar – not present

Marketing and Communications- Rebecca Eden (Voting Member)

If there are any social media, marketing or communications needs, please send to Rebecca and Debra with copy to Sabrina.

Spring Parent Party- Suzanne Rovner and Kristen Feurer (Voting members) - no report

Social Media- Debra Sitar- not present

IB Liaison- Mary Tookey (Non-voting member)

Program is planning potluck again with date TBD. Ms. Tookey provided overview of IB career related programs including performing arts, ROTC, etc. She discussed the amazing diversity of the school in every way you can think including representation from all areas of Chicago, different interests, cultures, ethnicity, etc. She wants people to understand that LPHS has something for everybody which is something to celebrate and be proud of.

LSC Liason- Sabrina Spitznagle and Rebecca Eden (Voting members) no report

Personalized Marquee Message- Sabrina Spitznagle- no report

New Business – none

Old Business- none

Open/Announcements-

FOLPHS received a request from Ms. Walters for visual art supplies. She should be working with Ms. Drake unless it's a request and there is no CPS vendor.

For Freshman curriculum night, can a new Sophomore attend? Dr. Steinmiller will send link for event.

Reminder that any attendance issues need to be directed to Attendance Office vs. Main Office. Any student under 18 needs parent approval to leave campus.

Adjourn- 8:11 pm

ATTENDANCE

FOLPHS Board and Committee Members 2022-2023			
Board Members (Voting Members)			
President and Teacher Appreciation Co-Chair	Sabrina	Spitznagle	spitznagle98@gmail.com
Vice President	Kristen	Feurer	kastoj@aol.com
Secretary	Sarah	Portugal	scportugal@comcast.net
Treasurer	Ellen	Vickman	ezickmann@gmail.com
At-Large Board Members (Voting Members)			
Communications Chair	Yelena	Spector	yelenaspector@yahoo.com
Fall/Spring Parent Parties Chair	Suzanne	Rovner	rovnerfamily@gmail.com
Marketing	Rebecca	Eden	rebeccaeden@gmail.com
DEI Co-Chair	Venecia	Sanchez	Vsanchez88@sbcglobal.net
Pledge Drive/Brick Donation Chair	Eury	Chrones	eurydice.chrones@hangar-12.com
Community Fundraiser Chair	Jodi	Torzewski	Jbt312@comcast.net
Open House Committee Co-Chair	Michele	Berman	bermansm@sbcglobal.net
Open House Committee Co-Chair	Beth	O'Connor	bethoconnor@comcast.net
LPHS Administrators & Staff			
Principal	Eric	Steinmiller	easteinmille@cps.edu
IB Director	Mary	Tooley	METookey@cps.edu
LSC			
Community Representative	Bradley	Kessler	http://kessler@academicapproach.com/

