

# Steck CSC Agenda and Notes 24-25



Please reference the [CSC AGENDA](#)

**CSC Purpose:**

CSC is designed to engage parents, teachers and the community to enhance student achievement and school climate, provide strategic direction in support of the school's mission and vision as stated in the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP), and help ensure compliance with various laws and regulations. The CSC provides an opportunity for key stakeholders to have a voice in their school.

**What is this group responsible for doing?**

This group works with school leaders to provide feedback on important school decisions. These decisions may include ways to improve academic performance, budgets, and the school's program.

**Steck Mission:**

As a community, we work to ensure every student achieves academic, social and emotional growth.

**Steck Vision**

Steck Stars are known, safe, inspired, challenged, and empowered.

**DPS Core Values:**

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**CSC Ground rules:**

*Assume positive intentions, share air-time, approach ideas with an equitable lens, collaboration-listen to all perspectives, respect people's times, respectful interactions, genuine collaboration, keep in mind the benefit for ALL students.*

**Where:**

Steck Elementary Campus

**When:** September 17, 2025 5 pm, Teacher's Lounge

*\*Agendas are posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.*

**CSC Agenda 09/17/2025** [2025-2026 CSC District Handbook](#)  **CSC One Pager.pdf**

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Team Introductions: Molly Babineaux (parent and chairperson), Tom Wildman (parent), Jesse Morreale (parent), Teresa Klava (principal), Kerry McRae (teacher) (not in attendance). Three additional parents in attendance.
3. Meeting Norms were set:
  - a. The ground rules/norms for conducting the CSC committee meetings are as follows: **assume positive intentions, share air-time, approach ideas with an equitable lens, collaboration-listen to all perspectives, respect people's times, respectful interactions, genuine collaboration rather than being informed of decisions, keep in mind benefit for ALL students.**

4. Review CSC Purpose
  - a.  **CSC One Pager.pdf**
5. Elections
  - a. CSC has one open seat. Community members and families have communicated with Teresa if they are interested in being on CSC. We will review those self nominations and vote on the open seat.
  - b. One person has expressed interest in the open position
  - c. Tom Wildman is elected to an additional two year term.
  - d. In light of the significance of membership on the CSC for the 2025-2026 school year, a motion was made to extend elections. An electronic form attached to a paper QR code will be distributed on Friday Sep 19. Self nominations will close on September 29. Voting communication will go out on Friday October 3. Voting will close on Friday October.
6. Review of [CSC Bylaws](#)
  - a. Motion by Jesse and seconded by Tom: to add an additional certified teacher to bring the number on the CSC committee for 2025-2026 school year. The motion passes by unanimous consent.
7. Set CSC Meeting Dates for 2025-26, 6:00 pm
  - a. Tuesday October 14- In Person @ Steck
  - b. Tuesday November 11-TBD
  - c. Tuesday December 9-TBD
  - d. Tuesday January 13-TBD
  - e. Tuesday February 10-TBD
  - f. Tuesday March 10-TBD
  - g. Tuesday April 8- TBD
  - h. Tuesday May 13-TBD
8. Principal Update
  - a. Principal Search Update
  - b. [Principal Update Deck](#)
  - c.
9. Community Input
  - a. Communication from the App is difficult – people not getting information
  - b. 3rd, 4th, 5th para posting is up with a few applications in
  - c. Increased structure and stability for CSC meetings for planning and scheduling



purposes

Upcoming:

Next meeting

CSC Training through DPS: **CSC Training**

- Join us for the Fall CSC Training on **Wednesday, Sept. 24 from 5:30 - 6:30 pm**. This intro level training is open to all community members and covers the requirements and scope of work of Collaborative School Committees. To attend, please complete the [registration form](#).
- DPS Staff- There are also two self-paced CSC learning modules about CSCs in the Learning Space for staff credit. Search "Intro to CSCs 2025-26" and "CSC School Budget Training 2025-26" to enroll.



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**Where:**

Steck Elementary Campus

**When:** October 14, 2025 6 pm, Teacher's Lounge

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<p><b>CSC Agenda 10/14/2025</b> <a href="#">2025-2026 CSC District Handbook</a>  <b>CSC One Pager.pdf</b></p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Call to Order and Welcome</li> <li>2. Team Introductions: Molly Babineaux (parent and chairperson), Tom Wildman (parent), Jesse Morreale (parent), Teresa Klava (principal), Kerry McRae (teacher) New Committee Member Welcome: Lindsay Washington (Parent), Molly Kirschling (teacher), Nubia Chip(Classified staff)</li> <li>3. Meeting Norms were set: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The ground rules/norms for conducting the CSC committee meetings are as follows: <b>assume positive intentions, share air-time, approach ideas with an equitable lens, collaboration-listen to all perspectives, respect people's times, respectful interactions, genuine collaboration rather than being informed of</b></li> </ol> </li> </ol>



**decisions, keep in mind benefit for ALL students.**

- 4. Secretary Selection
- 5. System for Equitable and Accessible Community Input
- 6. Calendar for communication and updates to agenda
- 7. Principal Update
  - a. PTSA Meeting, Tuesday
  - b. Principal Search Communication coming on October 17
  - c. Conferences
  - d. Hiring-
    - i. New K-1 Para starts Wednesday, October 15th,
    - ii. New 1:1 for 5th grader on Monday, October 27th
  - e. Reporting of Class size to CSC- DCTA Contract**

Grade	Room & Size	Room & Size
ECE	102-20	
Kindergarten	109- 25	115-26
1st Grade	108-26	103- 24
2nd Grade	105-26	106-26
3rd Grade	210-29	211-29
4th Grade	203-30	208-30
5th Grade	205- 27	206-30

- 8. Community Input
  - a. Behavior Expectations on Campus
    - i. Steck Discipline Plan in development, SLT charged with task
    - ii. [DPS Discipline Matrix](#) 2024- Family Version

Upcoming:

- The next CSC Meeting, November 11th, will be closed to CSC members only. The meeting will be from 6:00-9:00 pm, in person at Steck. The meeting will be from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm, facilitated by Dr. Dana Williams, Network 2 Director. During the meeting CSC will be trained for the principal interviews, review community input and develop questions for principal interviews.

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES - October 14, 2025**

## **Steck Elementary School Collaborative School Committee**

**Date:** Tuesday, October 14, 2025

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Location:** In-person at Steck - teacher's lounge

### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Molly Babineaux

### **2. Roll Call / Attendance**

Chairperson: Molly Babineaux

School Interim Principal: Teresa Klava

Parents Reps: Jesse Morreale, Tom Wildman, and Lindsey Washington,

Parents: Amy Faircloth,

Teacher Reps: Kerry McRae, Molly Kirschling

Classified Rep: Nubia Chip-Castro

### **3. New Business**

Community Engagement for Future Meetings

- Two weeks before each meeting, the committee will send home a QR code and Thrillshare message asking for parent and teacher input on future topics
- Parents/teachers can request topics for discussion and submit questions
- We will make this anonymous- community members may feel more comfortable sharing this way
- Molly B. and Molly K. will collaborate on sharing the QR code monthly
- Kerry will remind teachers to use the survey link on Thrillshare
- TWO weeks AND 24 hrs in advance of each meeting - meeting reminders and agenda will be sent to community members

Future Meetings

- Next communication re: principal selection process coming out via email on 10/17 from Dana Williams (to staff and parents)- nothing new to share at this time
- CSC is only required to meet quarterly- we may opt to conduct our next meeting on December 9
- We will schedule the meeting, then wait for new details from Dana Williams' update on 10/17, any parent/teacher feedback to see if we should still conduct the meeting

#### Principal Hiring Process

- Next communication re: principal selection process coming out via email on 10/17 from Dana Williams (to staff and parents)- nothing new to share at this time
- CSC will have a **closed** meeting on November 11- Dana will be in attendance
- This meeting on the 11th will be a three-hour training on the principal hiring process.
- We will also develop interview questions for principal candidates
- After CSC conducts interviews and chooses final recommendations, there will be a community forum, then Dr. Marrero will make a final decision
- Dana is hoping for 4-6 candidates

#### Conferences

- There has been a high rate of parent participation across grade levels
- Teachers appreciated the dinner from PTSA on conference night- thank you!

#### Class sizes

- Higher class sizes in grades 3-5 this year (29-30), this is the inverse of past years' trends
- New enrollment zone guidelines require that a school within an enrollment zone with the smallest class sizes automatically enrolls a new student that has moved to enrollment zone boundaries - proximity to school is no longer the highest priority
- Suggestion from Teresa- have a rep from school choice office come to our January meeting to discuss enrollment process

#### School Tours

- Teresa has been busy with school tours - families will have to rank their desired schools in order of preference when going through the choice application process
- Teresa- Steck stands out as being a neighborhood school with highly involved community, strong PTSA, and high student performance/growth

#### Code of Conduct for Parents

- There is a district policy in place for parent behavior expectations
- SLT is finalizing a discipline matrix for students and updating the family handbook
- Teresa will contact FACE representative to share DPS policy on next steps if code of conduct is violated by parents
- Should there be a section in the parent handbook that clearly outlines confidentiality expectations? (i.e. what parents are legally obligated to know if there is an incident)

## 4. Next Meeting

The next CSC committee meeting is a CLOSED meeting, only for CSC members and is scheduled for November 11, 2025 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm at Steck - in the teachers' lounge.



## 5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn was made by Jesse Morreale

**Time of Adjournment:** 7:00 pm

**Minutes submitted by:**

Kerry McRae, committee secretary

**Date:** October 14, 2025

**Approved by:** CSC consensus

**Date Approved:** January 13, 2026

Tuesday January 13th

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**Where:**

*Steck Elementary Campus*

**When:** *January 13, 2026 6 pm, Teacher's Lounge*

*\*Agendas are posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.*

**CSC Agenda 01/13/2026 [2025-2026 CSC District Handbook](#)  CSC One Pager.pdf**

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Team Introductions: Molly Babineaux (parent and chairperson), Tom Wildman (parent), Jesse Morreale (parent), Kerry McRae (teacher), Lindsay Washington (Parent), Molly Kirschling (teacher), Nubia Chip (Classified staff); New Committee Member Welcome - Ken Burdette (Principal)
3. Meeting Norms were set:
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**decisions, keep in mind benefit for ALL students.**

4. Principal Update
5. Community Input
  - a. Recess
    - i. Weather: can we change the threshold for indoor recess?
    - ii. Discipline: should it be used as a consequence?
  - b. Review of Discipline Policies
  - c. Can a Library be required for all grades?
  - d. Can we revisit the "soft start" vs. outdoor line up?
  - e. Swings for all levels?
  - f. Platooning: keep or discard?

Upcoming:

- February 10, 2026

## **APPROVED MEETING MINUTES - January 13, 2026**

### **Steck Elementary School Collaborative School Committee**

**Date:** Tuesday, January 13, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** In-person at Steck - teacher's lounge

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Molly Babineaux

#### **2. Roll Call / Attendance**

Chairperson: Molly Babineaux

School Principal: Ken Burdette

Parents Reps: Jesse Morreale, Tom Wildman, and Lindsay Washington

Teacher Reps: Kerry McRae, Molly Kirschling

Classified Rep: Nubia Chip-Castro

Additional Community Attendees:

Mollie Cardali, PTSA

Kara Foster, parent

Amy Faircloth, parent

#### **3. New Business**

- a. Greeting from new principal Ken Burdette

- Has already spent some time at the school meeting students and parents, attended the PTSA meeting, first official day as principal will be Friday, January 16
- Priority in the near future is examining our school budget, examining past budget needs, and looking toward next year's budget
- Will be meeting with district budget specialist on Friday, January 23

(The following topics were submitted by the community via CSC input form.)

**b. Parent concern: what is school policy on taking away recess as a consequence for behavior?**

- Principal Burdette: taking away recess should not be the first resort, policy dictates that students can not miss more than 50% of their recess time
- Students can be kept in to finish incomplete work or as a means of restorative justice

**c. Concern from a parent and a school employee: What is our school discipline policy?**

- Principal Burdette will be working with teachers on this in the coming months
- Strong believer in restorative justice
- If a student is causing harm, there should be an actionable consequence to hold them accountable
- All students in the classroom as well as the teachers/staff deserve to feel safe
- Steck has a PBIS system in place, including "star buck" tickets for positive behavior, monthly assemblies when students are celebrated and expectations are reviewed, "star buck" ticket goals for each class to reach with incentives for those classes who meet the goal

**d. Parent-teacher interactions**

- Principal Burdette: there is no place for parents to berate/disrespect teachers, concerns should be communicated respectfully

**e. Morning Soft-Start**

- Some parents are noticing that this has decreased community interactions in the mornings during drop-off, there is a lack of communication among parents compared to outdoor line-up model
- Anecdotal observations: there have been more traffic safety concerns (with the soft start) compared to years past
- Principal Burdette: mornings are a valuable time for students, parents, and teachers to connect
- If we do transition to outdoor line-up, arrival/dismissal is not a time for parents to have a lengthy conversation or personal conference with teachers (Principal Burdette will communicate this boundary)
- DPS sets our hard start time of 7:30, that is not an in-building decision; a big part of our schedule is determined by the district transportation schedule
- Principal Burdette: we will look at a few different scenarios for the future of our morning schedule
- Multiple entries to community discussion forum asking for a return to outdoor lineup

**f. A common request from parents is a new swing set for K-5 to use**

- The ECE swings are off-limits because the ECE program must follow specific licensing requirements
- Principal Burdette is exploring the addition of new swings with a district contact
- PTSA may be willing to explore funding pending the submission of a proposed budget

**g. Parent question: will class sizes change next year?**

- Principal Burdette's goal is to keep class sizes the same from this year to next year
- Projection for next year's enrollment is an increase of 4 students total school-wide (for a total of 333) not including ECE

- Enrollment zone system - schools in the same zone all take turns accepting new students so that enrollment stays consistent across schools
- We will ask an enrollment representative to join our meeting in March to share more information about how the enrollment process works

**h. Parent question: how is AI being used, especially in grades 4-5?**

- There is an AI governance committee in DPS
- Parent question: what is the balance between using AI vs. students learning to use thinking skills independently?

**i. Parent and staff question: Do we have a cell phone policy?**

- Interim Principal Klava sent a communication to families requesting that student devices be kept in backpacks during the school day
- New Colorado state law - all districts need to have a student cell phone-use policy in place by July 1 (the details of what the policy should include are not stipulated)
- This is on Principal Burdette's agenda to discuss with SLT (using Mrs. Klava's communication as a springboard)

**j. Next steps in budget development for 26-27 SY**

- Principal Burdette is meeting with district budget specialist on 1/23, will present different budget scenarios at our next meeting in February; community members are invited to attend the meeting to hear the scenarios and give feedback

## **4. Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 10**

## **5. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Molly Babineaux

**Time of Adjournment:** 7:31 pm

**Minutes submitted by:**

Kerry McRae, committee secretary

**Date:** Tuesday, January 13

**Approved by:** CSC consensus

**Date Approved:** Feb 10, 2026

Tuesday February 10th

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**Where:**

*Steck Elementary Campus*

**When:** *February 10th, 2026 6 pm, Teacher's Lounge, in person*

*\*Agendas are posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.*

**CSC Agenda 02/10/2026** [2025-2026 CSC District Handbook](#)  **CSC One Pager.pdf**

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Meeting Norms were set:
  - a. The ground rules/norms for conducting the CSC committee meetings are as follows: **assume positive intentions, share air-time, approach ideas with an equitable lens, collaboration-listen to all perspectives, respect people's times, respectful interactions, genuine collaboration rather than being informed of decisions, keep in mind benefit for ALL students.**
3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
4. Principal Update
  - a. Budget Options for 2026-2027 School Year

5. Any topics of concern brought up from parent/community survey

Upcoming:

Next meeting: March 10, 2026

## **APPROVED MEETING MINUTES - February 10, 2026**

### **Steck Elementary School Collaborative School Committee**

**Date:** Tuesday, February 10, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 pm

**Location:** In-person at Steck - teacher's lounge

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Molly Babineaux

#### **2. Roll Call / Attendance**

Chairperson: Molly Babineaux

School Principal: Ken Burdette

Parents Reps: Jesse Morreale, Tom Wildman, and Lindsay Washington

Teacher Reps: Molly Kirschling

Classified Rep: not in attendance tonight

Additional Community Attendees:

Mollie Cardali, PTSA

#### **3. New Business**

##### **a. Greeting from new principal Ken Burdette**

- Shared the total budget scenarios: PTSA donated \$50K (goes toward our grant), maybe \$15K carry forward from last yr to this yr (not being fully staffed), savings of week over week/month over month from lack of paraprofessional
- We pay teacher averages for salaries, we pay same amount for 1st yr teacher as a 15 yr teacher
- CO is ranked in the bottom quartile of the country (43rd - depends on what data you look at) in regards to state funding for education, the largest chunk of funding in CO goes to health care. DPS is expecting a 3,000-4,000 student decrease over next 3-5 yrs. Pretty lean times now and in future (education funding wise).
- We will receive roughly \$7,000 per student here at Steck (we have tiered funding in DPS, so other schools receive more per pupil than Steck) Steck is traditionally a lower funded school in the District
- Projected to be at 333 students next year (plus another 20 from ECE) Question - is 333 students at the upper end or the lower end of # of students in the school? We are in a position with a waitlist of students. 333 was decided before Mr. B came to Steck. We can reach out to our waitlist if we do not reach our number. We did have a waitlist for all grades except 5th (this year).

- Mr. B will reach out to the 6-8 families who have not fully committed to returning to Steck for next year, to get a more concrete number of how many spots we will have for next year.
- 4 general paras plus 1 ECE para are funded (ECE para funded from ECE dept. Into our school budget)
- ECE teacher is also funded separately. Money given directly from the ECE dept into our school budget)
- Staff voted to keep the math curriculum Ready math, and keep the iReady diagnostic tools and individualized computer learning level platform. This is only a difference of \$10K. This could change for the 27-28 school year but our data supports keeping it for 26-27 school year because our test scores are so high, because the staff supports it, and because we have the money to fund it.
- Staff voiced the investment of additional funds should go toward .5 Special Ed teacher (which will free up our school psychologist to hold more groups - she is currently picking up as a case manager to help Sped teacher)
- 8% student body currently need mild-moderate Special ed services , we also have students who need Speech and those on 504 plans (all managed by school psych and Sped teacher) 16-20% of our student population are affected/helped by a SPED teacher. Plus 5 Dedicated Adults (1:1) paraprofessionals, with a need to manage these adults.
- 75 students identified as GT, 62 who have at least one qualifying point (need 3 data points to be identified) (that's about 1/3 of our school) our GT teacher is full time. Our GT teacher tries to see the 2xs per week. Legally she does not have to pull groups, legally she has to do ALPs, paperwork, meet with families, progress monitoring students, etc. Seeing groups is a bonus.
- Having an additional .5 mild moderate teacher would free up our school psych for more groups of students (our school psych is currently doing more case management and special education work because we are spread so thin) Recommended 1 teacher per 18 students on IEP BUT NOT ALL IEPs ARE CREATED EQUALLY, some students have much higher needs than others, some have less time needs.
- WIN time "What I need" time is where students get pulled for GT, literacy intervention, math intervention, ESL services, etc. It's not perfect because some students have needs in more than one area - Mr. B and the leadership team is revising this system.
- Mr. B is pulling out \$25K from the \$130K in reserves to balance out the 4 paras and bring on a .5 SPED teacher. Question - is there a limit to how much the reserve can hold? Yes, 10% of the budget.
- Going to use some of our fundraising for another swingset (like the Steckretariat funds, and some PTSA help) We are getting a quote in next weeks, and the work order has been signed off on.
- PTSA funds can be used for paying paraprofessional salary (\$22-35K, 175 days at 7 hrs per day) but not to pay for full time teachers/staff (as this would likely not be sustainable longterm).
- Question - we have to pay average salaries to pay teachers but can we use our GRANT MONEY to pay our lowest paid teacher? Yes, this saves about \$15K
- Question - can the reserves be put in a Steck Fund to help raise the maximum? Not a good fund raising goal...to say the money would be used 5 yrs from now.
- \$40 K for special project (like the swing set) and/or fundraising at Steckretariat - Tangible results like a swing set that parents can see the fundraising went toward
- Mr. B is a strong believer of funds going to help the students- paraprofessionals.
- We also need a gate leading toward the staff parking lot so students are safe, maybe some funds from Steckretariat could go toward that(?)

- Staff survey results were: YES to keeping iReady Math (\$25K total, \$10K for the curriculum) and YES to .5 Special Education teacher (we are well above the 18 child threshold)

The 2026-2027 budget is being proposed as is - moving forward with 4 gen ed paras plus one ECE para and adding a .5 mild moderate teacher

Jesse M. moved to pass the budget as proposed by school principal, Mollie. B. seconded it, and the CSC voted unanimously to approve the 2026-2027 school budget.

### **b. Community Building**

- Mr. B is outside daily, being present, greeting students and families, looking for more outreach or event opportunities, PBIS assemblies, try to start Friday celebrations to add more positivity and culture building.
- Question - do we have demographics on new students (language use)? Try to spread out the intro to Steck over summer (not all in July), sports (like rec center programs) are a way to include families - authentic way to include others

### **C. CSC surveys and meetings moving forward**

- We discussed the need for a more formalized way to address questions and topics submitted through the CSC survey. Some submissions might be more appropriate for Mr. B to respond to, others could prompt clarification that goes out to the school community, and others could be discussed at CSC meetings with the response documented in the meeting minutes.
- We also revisited the topic of CSC meeting format (in-person with virtual option, what are the parameters around attendee participation, etc.). The March meeting will have a Zoom/Google Meet link with an option for attendees to write questions or comments in the chat feature. We agreed to more explicitly invite people to attend the CSC meetings if they have submitted a survey response and it will be on the agenda; barriers for participation were identified.
- We agreed to revisit this topic at the March 10th CSC meeting.

## **4. Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 10**

## **5. Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Molly Babineaux

**Time of Adjournment:** 7:12 pm

### **Minutes submitted by:**

Molly Kirschling, Teacher representative

**Date:** Tuesday, February 10, 2026

**Approved by:** CSC concensus

**Date Approved:** March 10, 2026



Tuesday March 10th

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**Where:**

*Steck Elementary Campus*

**When:** *March 10th, 2026 6 pm, Teacher's Lounge, in person*

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**CSC Agenda 03/10/2026** [2025-2026 CSC District Handbook](#)  **CSC One Pager.pdf**

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Meeting Norms were set:
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3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes
4. DPS Representative to speak about Enrollment Zone (Tentative)
5. Principal Update

- |                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6. Any topics of concern brought up from parent/community survey<br>a. School Start Time<br>b. Assessment Days |
| Upcoming:<br>Next meeting: April 14, 2026                                                                      |

## **APPROVED MEETING MINUTES - March 10, 2026**

### **Steck Elementary School Collaborative School Committee**

**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Location:** In-person at Steck - teacher's lounge

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Molly Babineaux

#### **2. Roll Call / Attendance**

Chairperson: Molly Babineaux

School Principal: Ken Burdette

Parents Reps: Tom Wildman, and Lindsay Washington

Teacher Reps: Kerry McRae, Molly Kirschling

Classified Rep: not in attendance

Guest Attendees:

Laurie Premer, Director of Enrollment Services

Audrey Schafer, parent

Jessica Wu, parent

Four Attendees on Google Meet

#### **3. New Business**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the last meeting, motion was approved by committee members

**Laurie Premer, Director of Enrollment Services**

- **FACE Helpline: [FACEHELPLINE@dpsk12.org](mailto:FACEHELPLINE@dpsk12.org)**
- Steck is in an enrollment zone, this is not a new system- already exists in other districts

- Enrollment zones were created to equalize access to many different types of schools during the school choice process
- Algorithm works by matching applicants to top choice schools in the district
- If a family moves out of an enrollment zone, siblings are not guaranteed a spot at the same school
- Elementary schools - also have proximity zones: Steck mimics proximity zone
- If families apply in round one of school choice
- Round 1: everyone in proximity zone gets in
- Round 2: waitlists are dynamic - if someone moves into the proximity zone they climb higher on the waitlist
- Every school holds a place for students who may move into the proximity zone
- If someone moves in across the street from a school and they're already at capacity, theoretically it's possible that they would not get into that school
- Other schools in the enrollment zone take those students
- Siblings outside of the enrollment come behind anyone in the enrollment zone on the waitlist
- Phase out/phase in system might be considered for siblings
- Boundary is the first priority
- Then siblings
- Then Denver residents
- Then non-Denver siblings
- Steck can not make autonomous decisions on enrollment priorities
- If a new student moves into Denver, they rank their preferred school even if it's not in their enrollment zone. If a school is not at their census number, then the student will be placed there
- If all schools are at their census number after fall adjustment, then new enrollees are "round-robin" in
- Only in very extreme cases would siblings be separated- an effort is made to place all siblings at their preferred school
- State UPK system uses a different algorithm; geography is not taken into account the same way it is in DPS
- Is that communicated to Pre-K families that they are not guaranteed a spot? Maybe not as well
- Max class size is 35 as negotiated with DCTA
- Next year the max will be 30
- Schools set their desired class sizes, then new students are added round-robin
- What advocacy can parents engage in to help all their children stay together in one school
- Choice Round 1 has closed
- Choice Round 2 (lottery) opens today and closes in August
- ECE families who already have older children at Steck are not guaranteed a spot for their younger child

### **Principal's Update**

- Mr. B has been here for two months, it has been a positive start
- Focus on keeping school systems and performance strong
- Maintaining focus on our STARS traits, both for students and for staff
- Interim Math and ELA and DIBELS midyear scores are consistent with past year's performance (average around 78% proficient)
- Clear expectations set for behavior with students
- Supporting students with sportsmanship during recess

- Question: will adding a .5 special education teacher next year free up time from our school psychologist to support students schoolwide with social-emotional needs
- Interviews are scheduled in the coming days for .5 sped
- A new para has started to support 2nd and 3rd grade students
- Culture plan for next year: “The Steck Way”
- “Coffee with the Principal” meeting feedback: parents are concerned about testing pressure

### **Survey Response About Start Times**

- 71% want to change start time
- 64.2% want a 7:45 start time
- 24% ok with keeping the same start time
- Mr. B has reached out to the director of transportation to request changing our start time to 7:45
- Mr. B will propose to ILT/SLT that we start outdoor lineup after Spring Break

### **Assessment Day Survey Responses**

60% of teachers (mostly primary teachers) are in favor of keeping it

Majority of parents are against keeping it for next year- too disruptive to schedules

Possible alternative would be hiring substitute teachers to support teachers so they can do assessments 1:1 while still providing all students with a regular, full school day.

## **4. Next Meeting**

Tuesday, April 14, 2026

### **Minutes submitted by:**

Kerry McRae, Teacher representative

**Date:** Tuesday, March 10, 2026

**Approved by:** CSC consensus

**Date Approved:** April 14, 2026

## **5. Adjournment**

Move to adjourn the meeting was made by Molly Banineaux

Tuesday April 14th

Please reference the [CSC AGENDA](#)

**CSC Purpose:**

CSC is designed to engage parents, teachers and the community to enhance student achievement and school climate, provide strategic direction in support of the school's mission and vision as stated in the Unified Improvement Plan (UIP), and help ensure compliance with various laws and regulations. The CSC provides an opportunity for key stakeholders to have a voice in their school.

**What is this group responsible for doing?**

This group works with school leaders to provide feedback on important school decisions. These decisions may include ways to improve academic performance, budgets, and the school's program.

**Steck Mission:**

As a community, we work to ensure every student achieves academic, social and emotional growth.

**Steck Vision**

Steck Stars are known, safe, inspired, challenged, and empowered.

**DPS Core Values:**

Students First, Fun, Integrity, Collaboration, Equity, and Accountability

**CSC Ground rules:**

*Assume positive intentions, share air-time, approach ideas with an equitable lens, collaboration-listen to all perspectives, respect people's times, respectful interactions, genuine collaboration, keep in mind the benefit for ALL students.*

**Where:**

Steck Elementary Campus

**When:** April 14th, 2026 6 pm, Teacher's Lounge, in person

**Online Meeting Link**

*\*Agendas are posted at least 24 hours prior to the meeting.*

<b>CSC Agenda 04/14/2026</b> <a href="#">2025-2026 CSC District Handbook</a>  <b>CSC One Pager.pdf</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Call to Order and Welcome</li><li>2. Meeting Norms were set:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The ground rules/norms for conducting the CSC committee meetings are as follows: <b>assume positive intentions, share air-time, approach ideas with an equitable lens, collaboration-listen to all perspectives, respect people's times, respectful interactions, genuine collaboration rather than being informed of decisions, keep in mind benefit for ALL students.</b></li></ol></li><li>3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes</li></ol>

#### 4. Principal Update

- a. The outside morning line-up change, week 1 review (it went well!)
- b. Bell times next year
- c. Enrollment update for next year
- d. Hiring update for next year
- e. School culture overall
- f. Staff professional development this Spring

#### 5. Any topics of concern brought up from parent/community survey

- a. Start Time
- b. Technology in Curriculum

Upcoming:

Next meeting: May TBD, 2026

## **DRAFT MINUTES - April 14, 2026**

### **Steck Elementary School Collaborative School Committee**

**Date:** Tuesday, April 14, 2026

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Location:** In-person at Steck - teacher's lounge

#### **1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Molly Babineaux

#### **2. Roll Call / Attendance**

Chairperson: Molly Babineaux

School Principal: Ken Burdette

Parents Reps: Tom Wildman, and Lindsay Washington (3rd parent not in attendance)

Teacher Reps: Kerry McRae, Molly Kirschling

Classified Rep: not in attendance

Guest Attendees: Mollie Cardali, parent and PTSA treasurer

Two attendees on Google Meet

### **3. New Business**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the last meeting (March), motion was approved by committee members

#### **Principal's Update**

- Steck was named as one of nine recipients of the Governor's Distinguished Improvement Award. These awards are given to schools that demonstrate exceptional student growth. On the school performance framework that is used by the state to evaluate schools, these nine schools exceeded expectations on the indicator related to longitudinal academic growth at all grade levels.
- CMAS literacy and math testing has concluded, fifth grade is finishing science CMAS this week
- Scores will be available to parents in DPS's Parent Portal in late July or early August
- PTSA budget will be finalized in the near future
- DPS grounds crew has been on site to evaluate a location for a new swingset; this process is moving forward and may also include a shade structure/canopy for the playground
- PTSA is proposing to fund the swings through a combination of Fun Run fundraiser donations and reserve monies; vote pending

#### **End of Year Activities**

- Fun Run on May 8th, \$35k fundraising goal to help fund new swingset
- Field Day on May 20th
- Kindergarten EOY celebration on May 22
- Fifth grade continuation on May 28th

#### **Hiring for 26-27 school year**

- A new .5 special educator has been hired; she brings extensive general ed and special ed teaching experience
- Tentative: Looking to hire a new full time gen ed paraprofessional and a 1:1 special education paraprofessional

#### **Bell Times for 26-27 school year**

- Majority of parent and staff survey respondents favored a later start time (see last month's minutes)
- Request for the 7:45 start time has been denied by transportation due to conflict with bussing schedule
- The time change request was due in December (before Mr. B started)
- Mr. B is still exploring other options

#### **Enrollment update for 26-27 school year**

- 353 projected enrollment for next school year (this number includes 20 ECE students)

- Siblings of currently enrolled students who live outside of the enrollment zone will not be given “choice” priority for a spot at Steck
- At least 50 families currently on kindergarten waitlist for next year

### **Outdoor Lineup**

- Off to a positive start
- Parents have been more present at morning drop-off
- Students enjoy playing outside before school starts
- Traffic/unsafe driving is still an area of concern, especially on the south side of the school along E. 4th Avenue

### **Staff PD for Next Year**

- Mr. B is planning to place an emphasis on school culture & climate, “The Steck Way”

## **4. Next Meeting**

Ken will propose a meeting time for mid-May; TBA

On the agenda:

- Begin planning for first week of school: establishing traffic guidelines for parents
- Begin planning a system to help new families (including multilingual households) access schoolwide events, committee meetings, school communications, etc. - PTSA/room parents and our MLL teacher might be a liaison for this system. Can we also create a system to share district support resources (FACE team, etc.)?

## **5. Adjournment**

Move to adjourn the meeting was made by Molly Banineaux

Minutes taken by committee secretary Kerry McRae