

# PRESCOTT ELEMENTARY

## 10/02/24 LSC MEETING NOTES

Tracy Kremer – calls meeting to order at: 5:10pm

### 1. Roll Call:

|                                             |   |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Erin Roche, Principal                       | Y | Tracy Kremer, Parent Rep, Chair | Y |
| Amy Cortis, Parent Rep, Vice Chair          | Y | Ryan Crosby, LSC Secretary      | Y |
| Jeff Marren, Parent Rep                     | Y | Maria Pecard, Parent Rep        | Y |
| MJ Ross, Staff Representative               | N | Amanda Hazlip, Teacher Rep      | N |
| Jennifer Phares, Teacher Rep                | Y | Liam Hawry, Parent Rep          | Y |
| Chip Patterson, Community Rep               | N | Gina Doocy, Community Rep       | N |
| Gianna Chumil-Lazio, Student Representative | Y |                                 |   |

Attendees: Prescott Parents, several teachers for public comment. Jessica C, Shelley, Alexa S, Moran, Stewart, Stefan, Swanson, Maria Pecard

### 2. Public Comment:

- Ms. Stefan: Shared concern over large class size this year. Wants clarity about what can be done to avoid too-large class sizes in future.
- Moran: Spoke about challenge of large class size, especially with a high concentration of IEPs. Provided examples about how increased class size increases clerical work and decreases time able to spend on instruction. Also wants clarity about what can be done to avoid too-large class sizes in the future, and how to fill newly-added positions quickly.
- Ms. Swanson: Expressed support for colleagues, and concern about knowing she will have a large class size next year, as this year's third graders become fourth graders.
- Ms. Stewart: Shared that she has 33 students. It's going as well as it can, but it's hard. Definitely needs more support, though she knows people are working on it.
- Jessica Coleman: Parents on recent Prescott Parents board call also shared frustrations and concerns about class sizes.
- Ms. Hazelip: Shared concerns about large class sizes and encouraged action to prevent burnout.
- Ms. Phares: Shared concerns about large class sizes. Expressed that learning is going well because Prescott teachers have such expertise. Asked that the LSC keep in mind that these expert teachers are struggling, though, and they know what we are doing.

### 3. Approve July Meeting Notes: Motion Passed

### 4. Motion to Approve Agenda: Motion Passed

### 5. Gianna: Introduction – Introduced self. Emphasized strong sense of justice, and her interest in making sure students have a voice on LSC.

### 6. Special Report: Melisa Rukelis

- Attendance / percentage at 94.2 (96% is the goal)
- IAR scores 2023 Spring – ELA 79.5% met/exceeded & 58.5% math – Earned IL's Exemplary school status again

- IAR scores writing – 86.6% (highest over recent years)
  - Five Essentials Survey (mandatory for CPS)
    - Highest score is “Ambitious Instruction”
    - Lowest score is “Collaborative Teachers” (teacher-to-teacher-trust)
    - BOY & CCT work throughout year (climate and culture) & more time throughout day to connect
    - Growth in “Effective Leaders” except for program coherence (still in “Strong” area)
  - GPA & “On Track” metrics – ended 2024 at 87% (defined as higher than 3.0 GPA and 90% attendance)
    - On track currently at 70%
  - Roche: Goals for this year are based on last year. 3 Big initiatives. Achievement gap persists but is closing. SEL work (staff / community / students). Several minor initiatives. Building technology.
7. Educational Technology presentation – Mr. Giancopi: Mr G. works with middle school IEPs. Masters in EdTech. Burley 13 years. Year 6 at Prescott.
- Technology Roadmap. Year 1 Apple iPads K-8.
  - The iPad is a strong creation tool. Lowest floor (entry), widest walls, highest ceilings (potential). Front and back videos. Annotate and make videos. Take and extend beyond paper and pencil.\
  - Kindergarten uses Seesaw. Records thinking rather than writing. Balance digital & analog. With styluses versus fingers (because fingers proved more challenging).
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> grade uses “epic!” books to curate and do research. Then analog posters.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade collaborates between dance / music / art. Record and do sock puppets. Make music.
  - Middle School. Write podcast in Gdocs, then record in Garage Band. Plastic pollution documentary. Wrote script, acted out. Then created website and shared publicly. Math mini lesson on castle construction, then maps for locations, then volume and cost modeled and built.
  - Last year was year 1 full school iPads. Learned many things. Tech Roadmap:
    - Visited Apple distinguished schools (Berwyn district 100)
    - Digital Citizenship curriculum – 6 lessons mapped into all grades. Includes device charter how to learn and use, and Ai topics, etc.
    - Prescott Tech Technicians (in-class student tech support). Students can help. Trained by Mr. G, then empowered to help in each class. “Tech-Tech” team get rewards. Build leadership and abilities. Support the culture of care, and help students and teachers with best practices.
  - Roche: district is providing 1:1 device resources. Every Wed get tech coordinator from CPS.
  - Q&A:
    - Ms. Phares: When asked about Chrome books vs iPads, she shared that she still struggles somewhat with iPads. More troubleshooting, and many high schools use Chromebooks. Mr. G offered to troubleshoot.
    - Gianna – Shared that the move to iPads in recent years felt like a big transition for students, harder before keyboards and styluses became available.
    - Liam Hawry: Shared request to incorporate more staff & student feedback into technology roadmap
    - Mr. G to provide another update later in school year/early next school year

## 8. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

- Extra Curriculars: Hawry – funded? CPS funded OST (\$17K). All went to choir. Prescott Parents has funded first 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$15K). Still \$30K short for remainder of the year. “Cross that bridge when we get there”.
- Due to class sizes CPS awarded TAs. In hiring process. Timeline is ASAP.
  - Big credit to Tracy Kremer who helped push district to respond. They offered 6 TAs. Also asked for \$85K for dance / coach / etc. Only got TAs.
  - Marren: Shared that he is hearing discussion about overcrowding. Asked about hiring process for Tas.

- Roche: word of mouth / job boards, etc. No formula exists for how to deploy additional Tas, so Roche spoke with all primary teachers to determine priority. 102 is highest priority with 33 students. Priority 1-7 based on need. How are SECAs assigned by need? SECAs can support other students
- Pecard: can SECAs float? Roche – yes flexible will work it out.
- Crosby: not LSC role to figure out administration.
- Hawry: should we have a second meeting or take additional action?
- Kremer: our role is to seek reassurance on whether/how these needs are being addressed. Special meeting not needed, but we will check on progress at next meeting.
- Roche: Art room had \$100K work done to improve / HVAC / walls / lights, etc. Floor done by CPS.
- Roche: 1<sup>st</sup> floor ADA accessibility funding approved and in planning for next year. 3<sup>rd</sup> grade letter sent to Capital Development team, and that letter tipped it over.

9. PRESCOTT PARENTS update

- PP Board meeting in September
- Wall of Champions Fundraiser
- Parents Night Out in November
- UFO success exceeded goal
- Banners up on Ashland from sponsors (2024 benefit)
- Teachers lunch shifting to combined to lessen costs
- OST funding (asked for \$45K), provided \$17K stopgap
- Accountant suggests a more formal way to track funding for large donations (LSC to approve going forward)
- Recently purchased branded Prescott Canopy tent
- Hawry: Update PP to earlier in agenda? Yes OK to change.

10. GYM Update - Crosby: Concern about elevator impacting gym/auditorium. Want to make sure interests are aligned. Reinforce need and align. Get organized to get to next board meeting. Roche working on response / will work with Crosby. In last meeting about elevator, CPS said when existing building removes egress, then all emergency evacuations reassessed.

11. APPROVE FUNDS Accept \$10,000 from Prescott Parents for teacher and staff curriculum and professional development (due to district budget cuts) – Motion passed.

12. APPROVE FUNDS transfer Accept up to \$45,000 from Prescott Parents for before and after-school programs and tutoring (due to district budget cuts) – Motion passed.

13. APPROVE FUNDS Funding for Dance/Movement & Moore Well-Being via rental funds – Motion passed.

14. APPROVE BUDGET acknowledge CPS district has been reviewed– Motion passed.

15. APPROVE CIWP Funding for movement furniture – Motion passed.

16. Report on Middle school Field Trips: Marren & Sinclair:

- Proposal shared to potentially take 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> to Springfield this year / Next year 8<sup>th</sup> grade to DC.
- Heard from CPS approved tour companies (Hemisphere & Grand Classroom proposals)
  1. \$175-\$250 / person (10% discount per 10 students) 1-day round-trip
  2. \$1500-\$2500 for DC trip (would do fundraising to help)
- It's possible, just need to get it going (could start payments 1-year in advance)
- Roche – cannot comment at this time
- Kremer – love idea but need clarity about whether this would be school-led or parent-led; sounds like parent-led

17. OLD Business – None

18. Meeting Adjourned – 7:17pm