

**Bret Harte Elementary School**  
**1556 East 56th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637**  
**Charles Bright, Principal**  
**Shequitis Shelton-Turner, Assistant Principal**

**Local School Council Meeting in Person**  
**Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:15pm**

Approved Meeting Agenda items are listed with meeting minutes noted below.

1. Call Meeting to Order by Chairperson, Joe Kurstin at 5:29pm
2. Roll Call by Chairperson, Joe Kurstin
  - Present: Charles Bright, Dawn Evans, Ashley Lanfair, Kara Hill, Joe Kurstin, Stacy McDavis, Kristin Woods, Aiko Hibino
  - Absent: Keeshawn Romero, Latavius Davis, Sam Nolan \* It was noted that S. Nolan had problems connecting to the zoom link that it was listed on the agenda. Going the LSC we use a google link that Ms. Turner will create for our meetings.
3. Approval of Agenda
  - Motion to approve by A. Lanfair; second by K. Woods; approved by all
4. Vote to Approve Previous Meeting Minutes
  - Motion to approve June meeting minutes by A. Lanfair; second by D. Evans; approved by all with the exception of Aiko who abstained.
  - Motion to approve September meeting minutes with approved edits by D. Evans; second by C. Bright; approved by all with the exception of Aiko who abstained.
5. Nominations and Appointment of the Vacant Seats
  - n/a
6. Announcement of Guests –
  - Shequitis Shelton-Turner, Assistant Principal
7. Public Comment – None
8. Reports - Principals Report - **Current School Enrollment is 357 Students**
  - **Domain 1 – Organizational Leadership**
    - **Distributed 1st Quarter Progress Reports**
    - **Held Professional Development Day meeting with teachers.**
    - **Conducted the Network 9 Rigor Walk on Sept. 16th. We observed 9 classrooms looking for evidence of learning targets and level of rigor in student work and learning objectives. 7 out of 9 classrooms observed had strong evidence of learning targets being aligned to Common Core Standards. Most classrooms had all adults intentionally engaging with students to support learning. The culture of the building and classrooms is warm and welcoming to ALL students. An area of clear growth was 6 out of 9 classrooms had rigor at the retrieval level. As a result of the Rigor Walk, we have created additional support during grade-level meetings on Standards-Based Instruction followed by professional development of increasing rigor in classrooms.**
    - Became the second school in Chicago to partner with Young Eisner Scholars. Three sixth graders (Ryan Thorton, Valery Davila, and Okikiola Abiola-Fagba) -selected to receive mentorship from 6th grade through college
    - Held a Kickoff to Kindergarten program in July (4 week CPS sponsored program)
    - Held Summer OST programs for students including gardening, cooking, art, computer, cheerleading, science, basketball, algebra, math and reading tutoring.
    - Hosted CPS Summer Bridge Program for Harte, Kozminski, Reavis, and Woodlawn
    - Updated Staff and Parent Handbooks
    - Attended the 2-day Network 9 Leadership Meeting
    - Attended CPS Legal Conference (virtual)

- Lead opening week of professional development for staff. Included sessions on best practices for working with students with 504s and IEPs, MTSS best practices, and classroom management techniques. Teachers were also given an additional day to prepare their rooms for the 1<sup>st</sup> day of school.
- **Domain 2 – Instructional Core**
  - **Counselor Craig organized the Network 9 High School Fair at Dyett High School on Oct. 13th that brought over 20 high schools for students to learn about. Bret Harte's 8th graders and some 7th graders attended.**
  - **8th graders completed the CPS High School Admissions Exam on October 11th.**
  - Began BOY I-Ready/Star 360 testing for grades k-8
  - Conducted Network 9 Landscape Walk to observe teacher standards and student work on 9/7
  - PreK, 1st and 2nd graders will receive Spanish classes (preK will receive Spanish classes twice per week)
  - New Master Schedule includes common planning time for teachers.
  - The New Master Schedule for the first time also gives middle school students and opportunity to choose a class for enrichment/intervention (reading, writing, social studies, math, or science)
  - Will begin Spanish classes (Lango) for PreK and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students next week (once per week)
  - Teacher teams will participate in weekly common planning meeting times (beginning next Tuesday)
  - Created Google Classroom for staff to access all school related materials.
- **Domain 3 – Culture and Climate**
  - **Held two Culture and Climate team meetings to discuss 1st Quarter Honor Roll Assembly, plan activities for Hispanic Heritage Month, and evaluate progress on Second Step integration in classrooms**
  - **Middle school students attended STEM field trip to MLK Skating Rink on Sept. 21st PreK students visited Johansen Farms for a field trip on Sept.15th.**
  - **Attended PPC (Professional Problems Committee) meeting on September 21st.**
  - **Held our PAC organizational meeting on September 27th.**
  - Held Open House for parents on 8/30
  - Website photoshoot (including aerial pictures) for new website taken on 9/1
  - Welcomed over a dozen migrant Venezuelan families from the Lake Shore Hotel
  - Held Back to School Bask last Friday from 1-3pm
    - 1. Free swag for families, Harte t-shirts, Harte water bottles and Harte bags
    - 2. Free ice cream and animal balloon making for students
  - Contracted with Educational Networks to build a new website from the ground up. The photographer will be here to take an arial shot of the outside of the building plus they will take pictures of the inside of the school.
  - Outreach to families about PreK program (38-40 spots have been filled)
  - Continuously updating contact information
- **Domain 4 – Talent**
  - **Mariachi band performed for preK-8th grade students from 9-11am on Oct. 17th.**
  - **To support our migrant families, we are holding a Clothing Drive that is ending Oct. 17th.**
  - **The Chicago Fire Department spoke to preK-4th grade students about Fire Safety. Survive Alive Training for preK-4th grade students.**
  - **Received 2 new Special Ed classroom teaching positions. Currently searching for candidates**

- **Appealing for a .5 English Language Learner position**
  - **Appealing for additional teacher support for rooms 105 and 201 which are over the CTU class-size limit.**
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  - Hired new Lead Coach: Dawn Evans
  - Hired full-time security officer: Sherwin Jarvis
  - Hired 3 classroom teachers:
    1. Jon Ehlinger (middle school math)
    2. Denara Watson (PreK special education teacher)
    3. Donte Stephenson (PE)
  - Hired new Multi-Tiered Supports & Services (MTSS) Leader: Megan Johnson
  - Hired one new special education classroom assistant (SECA): Janice Harrison
  - Requested and received funding for 1 new special education classroom assistant (SECA) for grades k-2. Will begin the recruiting process next week.
  - Two staff members: Dorah Floyd (SECA) and Maria Heard (support staff) are completing their onboarding.
  - Assistant Principal Turner moved her office to the 2nd floor to provide admin support to that floor.
  - Reports – FOBHE
    - 1<sup>st</sup> fundraiser of the year with Stan's Donut was well supported by the community and in return our FOBHE will be making a larger effort to support local area school fundraisers as well.
    - EOY mailing campaign will be beginning soon, more details will be available after our November meeting.
9. Old Business
- Traffic Control / Security Guard Updates
    - No new updates or new major incidents to report on. The traffic study still needs to be completed to address the overall congestion that is still a problem surrounding our school.
  - Community Engagement Efforts
    - 3 new families have enrolled into the school. Google translate is working well for students and students have been very understanding about the changing demographics and have been making the new students feel welcomed.
    - There is a need for Spanish speaking volunteers, Aiko said that she was going to reach out within the FOBHE network to see if we can find some volunteers who would be willing to come to the school and assist with translations efforts.
10. New Business
- Vote to Approve Budget Transfers
    - Motion to approve \$95,262.94 in transfers by K. Woods; second by S. McDavis; approved by all
11. Set Agenda / Date for Next Meeting – all meetings will begin at 5:15pm
- Tuesday, November 14, at 5:15pm
  - Nominations and Appointment of the Vacant Seats
    - Parent Rep
  - Principal's Report / CIWP Report
  - FOBHE Report
  - Traffic Control / Security Guard updates
  - New Student Updates
  - Fundraiser/Budget Transfers

- Community Engagement Efforts

12. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn at 6:22pm by A. Lanfair; second by C. Bright; approved by all