

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, August 22, 2023 at 5:15pm

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

1. Call Meeting to Order by Chairperson, Joe Kurstin at 5:39pm
2. Roll Call by Chairperson, Joe Kurstin
 - Present: Charles Bright, Kristina Lawson, Kara Hill, Joe Kurstin, Stacy McDavis, Kristin Woods, Aiko Hibino
 - Absent: LaTavius Davis, Keeshawn Romero, Sam Nolan
3. Approval of Agenda
 - Motion to approve by K. Woods; second by K. Lawson; approved by all
4. Vote to Approve Previous Meeting Minutes
 - Motion to approve July meeting minutes by A. Hibino; second by K. Lawson; approved by all
5. Nominations and Appointment of the Vacant Seats
 - Motion to nominate Dawn Evans for the teacher representative open vacancy by K. Hill; second by K. Lawson; approved by all
 - * Kristina Lawson then resigned from her teacher representative position
 - Motion to nominate Ashley Lanfair as a teacher representative by A. Hibino; second by C. Bright; approved by all
6. Announcement of Guests - No guest were present at this meeting
7. Public Comment – no public comments were made
8. Reports - Principals Report - **Current School Enrollment is 325 Students**
 - **Domain 1 – Organizational Leadership**
 - **Held a Kick Off 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 1st day of school.**
 - **Domain 2 – Instructional Core**
 - **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 2nd 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 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**
 - **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 Stphenson (PE)**
 - **Hired new Multi Tired Supports and Services (MTSS) Leader:**
 1. **Meghan Johnson**
 - **Hired one new special education classroom assistant (SECA)**
 1. **Janice Harrison**
 - **Requested and received funding for 1 new special education teacher 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.**
 - **Assistance Principal Turner moved her office to the 2nd floor to provide admin support to that floor.**
- **A. Hibino asked was in charge of our current website, Mr. Bright said that no one has been assigned to take the lead for the project. A. Lanfair informed us that the website company that they are using is very user friendly that several other Hyde Park schools are using the same software.**
- **A. Hibino wanted a status update for ESL support for students. Mr. Bright said that this school year that Ms. Johnson (MTSS leader) will also support ESL students. Our school would need 20 students before CPS will provide us with a ½ time position, until we reach that point CPS will give us around \$7K for ESL support**
- **Report - FOBHE**
 - **1st fundraiser of the year is schedule for Tuesday, September 12th and will be a collaboration with Stan's Donuts. Flyers are posted around the school and communications have been sent out for parents and guardians**
 - **Mr. Bright informed us the PreK teachers were pleased with their accessibility toys and literacy support items that they received**

9. Old Business

- **Traffic Control / Security Guard Updates**
 - **On Friday, 9/18 at 2am a car hit one of yellow posts in front of the school, no other damage has been reported....Joe suggested that the school keep the video for evidence so this is starting to become an ongoing issue.**

- Mr. Bright is trying to set up a meeting with other local schools and our alderwoman to see what additional traffic control support can be provided by the city.

10. New Business

- Vote to Approve May Budget Transfers
 - Motion to approve \$8,659.01 in transfers by K. Woods; second by A. Lanfair; approved by all
- Community Engagement Efforts
 - Mr. Bright and Joe are going to continue to reach to parents and a signup sheet will be available for parents and guardians at the Open House event.

11. Set Agenda / Date for Next Meeting – all meeting will begin at 5:15pm

- Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 5:15pm
- Nominations and Appointment of the Vacant Seats
 - Parent Rep
 - Staff Rep
- Principal's Report
- CIWP Report
- FOBHE Report
- Traffic Control / Security Guard updates
- Fundraiser/Budget Transfers
- Community Engagement Efforts

12. Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn at 6:23pm by C. Bright; second by J. Kurstin; approved by all