

MINUTES  
February 15, 2018

The February 1, 2018 LSC meeting of the Oscar Mayer Local School Council was called to order by the chairperson, Mr. Mark Sassower, at 6:02 p.m in the library. A quorum was present.

Members in attendance were:

Nolan Hanson, Emily Herrick, Brent Ruppel, Mark Sassower, Cathy Stix, Betty Scalia, Ana Solis, Peter Talmers, Amy Zemnick, Kirsten Villers, Rohit Chandra and Interim Principal Danielle Drayton

Cathy Stix motioned to approve agenda. Nolan Hanson seconded the motion. Motion was approved 12-0

Cathy Stix motioned to approve the minutes. Nolan Hanson seconded the motion. Motion was approved 12-0

Introductions around the room.

**PRINCIPAL FORUM**

**Mark Sassower:** I am LSC Chair, Parent. We are hosting this principal forum in response to the principal advisory committee's formal recommendation of Danielle Drayton as principal. I'd like to thank and acknowledge the committee and LSC members, they have given significant time and thought.

Norah O'Brien, Lindsay, Ana Solis, Tiana Landcaster, Amy Anderson, Betty Scalia, Nolan Hanson, Kathy Stix, Brent Ruppel, Erica, Amy Zemnick, Rohit Chandra, Kirsten Villers,

Our purpose is to have the opportunity to hear from Danielle regarding her understanding of Mayer's needs and her vision of the role she would play if selected.

**Daniel Drayton:**

After this week's shooting, I want to start by emphasising my commitment to safety Number 1 priority - keep kids safe. Safety committee meeting re: several issues addressed, including the hiring a safety consultant.

Goal - identify opportunities: deep dive on what is working, what isn't working - how we can make it better.

Three priority areas:

- Involve community - community and parent engagement is key and I am very committed to building relationships with the community.
- Enhance current programs - particularly writing, visual arts and math. We've made improvements to math and we can do more.
- Preparing students for their future -- more than just getting to choice high school. We want our kids to be college ready and activists for better change in their communities.

### **Questions, Comments, Responses:**

Chris Vierling - 4th grade teacher:

- Representing EL2 - has our full endorsement. Danielle has proven to be very responsive and dedicated.

Mike Driesner:

- Doctorate in SpEd, school administrator in Naperville, attorney for special education, assistant superintendent - parent of young adult children and adopted children from China - Hugh, child wheelchair bound and with a service dog.
- Can't endorse Danielle enough. She is the leader I want at Mayer - she has been so responsive and supportive.

Vicky, daughter in room in 207. Recommend - Most Likely to Succeed movie: would love to bring that movie here to promote discussion.

Danielle: I would be interested in that.

Melissa Seiler: Can you talk about your commitment to montessori? Intention of securing training?

Danielle:

- Will pursue training -- currently enrolled in IB online course and I am pursuing the Montessori leader training.
- Having come from a "test centered" school culture - not something I want to return to - unhealthy.

Parent:

- Have been so pleased with my 4 yo daughter's progress - Ms. O'Brien is a excellent teacher. While I want her to be academically successful - social emotional is also critically important. Knowing what it means to fail.

Danielle:

- Climate committee has been formed and we are committed to selecting

Parent:

- What will be your criteria for selecting an assistant principal?
- How long do you want to be in CPS

Danielle:

- There will be rounds of interviews -

Maureen:

- When you consider assitant prinicpal hiring: what are the holes that need to be filled -- roles and responsibilities?

Danielle:

- Collaborative partnership: co-principal -- ex. Hawthorne
- I have a strong math and middle grades background -- want to compliment, ex.: for
  - ELA/SpEd
  - Chance for male leadership
  - Strong philosophy re: REACH - approach to teacher leadership
  - Montessori/IB not essential
  - Primary expertise

Amy Sprenger:

- Thoughts on increasing MYP Parent Engagement?

Danielle:

- Need to ask parents what they want -- in order to figure out what to engage

Parent:

- Given that you don't have a Montessori background - how committed are you to the program?

Danielle:

- I am committed to our programs - they won't be changed - only improved upon.

Parent:

- What is your philosophy of teacher support and coaching?

Danielle:

- Former practice of being in classrooms only for evaluation is not a good precedent.
- As a teacher, I improved through support and coaching and that is what I believe in.
- Teachers want support/coaching.
- REACH is something that I want to use to grow teachers.

Bridget:

- EC Teacher - safety is really important to me - and she has a very high expectations and support for safety.

Parent:

- Where do you see need for improvement

Danielle:

- Writing - we need to be teaching writing. Only has dedicated instructional time in EL2 - may involve a curricular adoption?
- Need to align SS and Science curriculums -- NGEI science standards alignment/adoption
- IB accreditation is upcoming
- Bring back fine arts

Kara Korte:

- Of those improvements - what is holding you back? Time? \$\$\$ Capacity?

Danielle:

- We've started improvements. For example - we've done a lot in math. This year has been a lot of data analysis to determine priorities. Capacity with assistant principal will be helpful.

Lindsay:

- Danielle is always coaching - her door is always open - I am always in there, because I want to grow.

Norah:

- As a teacher, I am always trying to grow. I think the growth mindset has shifted and grown since September.

Parent:

- How will you communicate/announce if you move forward

I will build a communication plan. I also want to increase presence/availability. Example: bring coffees back - at variable times, etc..

Lindsay:

- Danielle is everywhere - in the building and out of the building,

Ms. Maher:

- Responds to kids voice -- and they are really noticing. It's a welcome change.

Mark Sassower:

Next steps --Tonight's meeting only strengthened the current recommendation. The LSC and committee will principal advisory committee will make a formal recommendation to the LSC, which will be open for public vote.

Goal to be able to formally announce by March 9 benefit.

Cathy Stix motioned to adjourn. Nolan Hanson seconded the motion. Motion was approved 12-0

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Respectfully submitted,

Amy Zernick  
Parent Representative

These minutes were approved as read (corrected) on\_\_March, 8, 2018\_\_\_\_\_.