

CSC Meeting Minutes

Lowry Elementary
8001 E. Cedar Ave.
Denver, CO 80230



Date: February 6, 2020 *Time:* 5:30-6:30pm

Meeting Location: Lowry Elementary Community Room

Members Present:

Lindsey Zilverberg-Dean of Culture, Lisa Davis-Parent, Kelly Pfaff-Parent, Barbara Volpe-Community Member, Amy Morin-Literacy Intervention Teacher, Brittany Haynes-First Grade Teacher, Susan Rayburn-Special Education Teacher, Amanda Encinias-School Secretary

Absent Members:

Adrienne Nault-Principal, Amy Holthus-Pera-Parent, Merlin Holmes-Parent,

Additional Attendees:

Maureen Jarrett-School Secretary

Discussion Items

1. Call to order, welcome
 - a. Meeting was called to order at 5:32 pm by Lisa Davis
2. Guest Speaker
 - a. Our guest speaker, Patricia Vaughan, was unable to make the meeting at the last minute. She will be rescheduled for another meeting.
3. Public Input
 - a. One member of the public was in attendance. They did not have any issues to bring forward.
4. Approval of minutes from previous meeting
 - a. Susan Rayburn made a motion to approve the minutes. Amanda Encinias seconded the motion. All attendees were in favor of approving the minutes.
5. Unfinished Business Items:
 - a. Aviator Fund Conversation Update
 - i. We are waiting to hear from Cari Reidlin about the history prior to scheduling a meeting with PTO leaders.
 - ii. It was suggested that we also connect with Amy Hulse, who was previously the chair of the Aviator Fund.
 - iii. Members brainstormed ideas of what we could designate the money towards if that direction was taken. Ideas included: Paras in every classroom, a Full Time GT Teacher, a Full Time GT Teacher combined with a .5 SPED/.5 STL. The idea of having a menu of ways the money could be used was brought up.
 - b. Taqwa Orphanage Partnership Update – How was it received at We are Lowry night?

- i. There were lots of kids making hearts and watching the video. A photo of the hearts was sent to Mr. O.
- ii. Next steps should wait until Mr. O returns from Paternity Leave.
- iii. One idea for a partnership is to place something in a garden that is symbolic of the community or the orphanage and for us to provide something to them.

6. New Business Items:

- a. No new business at this time

7. Principal's Report

- a. The Budget Development Meeting was last Tuesday 1/28. The budget presented to CSC was presented to our Budget Partners and was approved. Hiring Season will start soon.
- b. We are Lowry was a great success with good turnout. Of the three ways it has been done over the years, administration felt this was the smoothest.
- c. Mr. Jovan is out on Paternity Leave starting next Tuesday 2/11. This is earlier than expected and Mr. O will not be back from his Paternity Leave yet. Since Operations is not part of the Lowry budget, we do not have control over staffing. The Operations Department will send someone out, but we're not sure who it will be.
- d. February is a busy month:
 - i. 2/12 - Friendship Parties in classroom and Picture Day
 - ii. 2/11 – Conscious Discipline Parent Night with dinner and childcare, Karen Hickman (Lowry's master trainer for last 4 years) will be presenting.
 - iii. 2/12 – Conscious Discipline Coaching Day. Karen Hickman will be working with ILT, Jill Molli will be working with SST and Wings. They will be doing observations in select classrooms.
 - iv. 2/13 - No students, The entire staff will be doing a Conscious Discipline training with Jill Molli.
 - v. 2/18 and 2/19 – Conscious Discipline Nationwide Workshop, 100 people coming, 9 staff members coming (teachers, paras)
- e. WINGS is fully staffed (1 Teacher, 0.6 Psychologist, 4 Paras)
 - i. When students are integrated with their grade level peers (specials, lunch, recess, etc.), their Paras join them to provide support.

8. In lieu of a guest speaker, staff members shared components of Conscious Discipline with the committee.

a. Brain Start Smart

- i. This is done in classrooms in the morning, at transitions or when things are getting hard. Every school PD starts off with it.
- ii. Incorporates 4 elements:
 - 1. Unite – An activity to do together. Come together as a family.
 - 2. Disengage Stress – Breathing Strategies (STAR, Drain), calm bodies when stressful situations
 - 3. Connect – something to talk about, elbow partner, get to know school family
 - 4. Commitment – different for grade levels. Commit to something (keeping it safe), on post it note
- iii. Can also include Celebrations, Wishing Well (School Family)

b. Safe Place

- i. Every classroom has a Safe Place. It is a calm space where students
 - ii. Pillows, calm space
 - iii. Feeling Buddies in Safe Place allow kids to identify what they are feeling.
 - iv. Encouraged to use Breathing Strategies.
 - c. Encourages a shift from emotional state to executive state.
 - i. Coaching kids on how to problem-solve it on their own. Power to have assertive voice – kind, but firm way
 - d. Want kids to problem solve, not us to problem solve for them
 - i. Share strategies to encourage kids to use different strategies – what you do, what you see other kids doing.
 - e. Feelings are messages we have to listen to, can't ignore it
 - i. Bridge from problem to solution
 - ii. Name it and tame it
 - f. Language
 - i. You Seem, I feel
 - ii. Conscious Discipline is Asset Based. Positive behavior is encouraged, rather than negative behavior called out. A behavior acknowledged is a behavior repeated
 - 1. Positive, what do you want them to do? Walk (not Don't Run)
 - 2. Specific, guide, encourage
 - iii. Multi-cultural approach – has to be owned by kids
9. Setting of agenda for next meeting – March 12, 2020, 5:30-6:30 pm. Possible Topics include:
- a. Miss Patricia
 - b. Mr. O
 - c. Prospective Questions for Administration Changes
 - d. UIP goals for 2020-2021
10. The meeting adjourned at 6:32 pm.

Upcoming Dates:

- 2/11 – Coffee with the Principal, 8:30 am
- 2/11 - Conscious Discipline Family Class, 5-7 pm
- 2/13-2/17 – No School
- 2/21 – School Tour
- 3/7 - Conscious Discipline Family Class, 9-11 am
- 3/7 – Reach for the Stars Auction and Fundraiser, 6-10 pm
- 3/10 - Coffee with the Principal, 8:30 am
- 3/12 – CSC Meeting, PTO Meeting
- 3/27-4/6 – No School