

New Field School

Local School Council

Notice is hereby given that the LSC has called a regular meeting

Tuesday, January 13 | 5:00 - 7:00 PM

New Field School Library: 1707 W. Morse Ave

Live stream link: meet.google.com/yjd-zwnq-ovm

AGENDA:

1. Call to order

Meeting was called to order at 5:06 by Sarah Bledsoe.

2. Roll Call

Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Erica Payne-Gaitan, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Sarah Bledsoe, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines were all in attendance.

3. Approval of agenda

Motion to move the public comment section of the meeting to take place after approval of November minutes.

Motion was approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Erica Payne-Gaitan, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.

4. Approval of November 2025 minutes

Motion to approve November's minutes made by Sarah Bledsoe

Motion was approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Erica Payne-Gaitan, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.

Public comment -

Phil Andrew shared information about his run for Congress in the 9th Congressional District. He spoke about being a survivor of school shooting, as well as roles he has held including working on violence prevention within the city, serving in the FBI for 21 years, and starting a crisis management firm (PAX group). Mr. Andrews has also worked with Catholic Schools while incorporating SEL programs and starting programs that utilize school resource officers. Mr. Andrews encourages community members to visit his web site, philandrew.com, to learn more about his platform.

5. Old Business

a. Scholastic Book Fair After Action Review

Book fair - This year's book fair made \$9600 in sales, which included \$4800 in scholastic money. These funds will be used to purchase school library books.

- b. Ned's Resiliency Ride Fundraiser After Action Review
Yo-yo sales have been solid (about \$1600 so far).
The assembly included positive messaging for students. There is a possibility that the group could return to New Field next year.
Teachers were freed up for collaborative planning during the assembly, and students seemed to enjoy the program.
- c. Friends of New Field updates
No new details related to Friends of New Field (Hannah and Sheila can provide an update at our next meeting - it sounds like a number of documents are ready to be processed).
- d. New Field Response to ICE/Federal Interactions & Protect RP Updates
Things have been quieter during the past 6 weeks with a few exceptions.
Support is being provided for families who have had a family member detained.
An overnight fundraiser raised \$25,000, and they're currently setting up mutual aid and working on how to distribute funds.
Parent training will take place at the end of February (in person or possibly virtual).
A meeting will take place on January 31st from 10:00 -12:00 (everyone is welcome, and kids activities will be provided).
Kid transport is still being provided, and Care for Real boxes are being given out each Thursday.
We've been hitting our target numbers for the Healthy Student Market for the past couple months.
Once our "Friends of" is set up we'll be able to link fundraising. Currently \$500 grants are being distributed to families in need.

6. New Business

- a. Our Special Someone Dance will take place on February 6, 2026.
We could sell snacks as a fundraiser (\$1.00 per item was discussed).
Expenses are generally about \$1700 for this event (food, DJ, Security, decorations).
Money in internal accounts could be used to fund this dance.
Motion to approve funding the Special Someone Dance was made by Sarah Bledsoe. Motion was approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Erica Payne-Gaitan, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.

b. YMCA Summer Rental Approval

This would take place from June 8 - July 31, 2026, and would be from 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. New Field would receive 10% of the YMCA's profit.

Last year the amount received was \$3000, and the money was put back into general funds.

The YMCA would like to use two rooms or spaces in our building, and they plan to offer families in before and after care the first slots, and then will open it to all families.

Motion to approve YMCA's use of space during summer session was made by Sarah Bledsoe. Motion was approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Erica Payne-Gaitan, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.

c. J at School Rental Check, school year 2022 & Internal Accounts Expenditure Request Approvals - we'll be receiving an \$8,000 check from a previous rental by J at School.

This is our third and final year of our school improvement plan.

The new improvement plan will be drafted for 3 years (final approval should happen at the beginning of May).

- We should plan for a special meeting to cover the budget and the school improvement plan this spring (the budget has not been released yet).
- ILT will be working on the school improvement plan in the weeks to come

7. Budget Amendments

OST - one cycle of the program has been completed, and a new session will start in March. We've spent 47% of the funds for OST, which puts us right on track for where we should be at this point in the year.

A focus will be on making sure we're included students with IEPs.

A morning homework club will be starting up soon, and we'll include our students with STLS status.

We'll have some related bucket expenditures, including paying our OST coordinator and security.

We were originally prepared to pay for a cadre, but we've been given one from the network. There is also not as much PD taking place during the 4th quarter so our costs will not be as high as other times of the year.

Our bucket has rolled over year after year since Covid and the money has been sitting, but could be reallocated.

Some buckets are negative (extra \$1300 in one, and negative \$130 in another

bucket).

Line 11575 shows a negative \$4800, because someone had a midyear change (step, lane, or benefits change).

Almost all of our Title 1 funds have been spent on personnel.

We'll be receiving some grant money to support instruction.

In the 4th quarter we'll need to start making purchases for next year.

The school parking lot rental money has just been sitting there. We would like to pull some of these funds.

We would like to consolidate and move funds into an arts line for our Lifeline Theater residency (spending a portion of the parking lot line). We would move funds into Special Income.

The partnership costs about \$6,000.

We could also take buckets from covid unused money and put all the funds in one place.

Erica Payne-Gaitan left the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Budget amendment number 1 - Collapse all miscellaneous lines.

Budget amendment number 2 - Move special income buckets.

We'd be closing the cadre sub bucket to pay for staff Professional Development.

Motion to approve budget amendments made by Sarah Bledsoe. Motion approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Erica Payne-Gaitan, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.

8. Reports:

a. Principal Report

The 2nd grade team includes a high level of early career teachers and has one teacher currently out on maternity leave.

All 2nd grade teachers have worked on improving morning meeting experiences, and have worked on aligning planning among classrooms. Many staff members have attended a training on executive functioning (focused on learning through play). It was observed that a number of 2nd graders were struggling with playing fair and conflict resolution.

Teachers have been focused on explicit standards for students including conflict management, what does it mean to be a good sport, etc., along with helping students learn how to play games together. So far there has been positive feedback from teachers.

Some of the planning and instructional supports in 2nd grade have been changed, as well.

Behavior data is showing some improvement.

Mr. Lopez is retraining all 2nd grade staff so they can run stations, go over rules, and review expectations prior to recess.

One program, S.S. Grin, consists of ten lessons across ten weeks. Each lesson has a teaching point and activities that build the skills (being a good friend and being assertive).

There are games focused on impulse control, and cooperative activities that help students develop group social skills. This could also be implemented during morning meeting.

We've had a trainer visit and observe co-teaching teams, and most teams have provided positive feedback.

The Culture Climate team has been collecting staff feedback, and we're noticing that the feedback is trending slightly more positive (2-3% more positive, indicating agree or strongly agree).

We're focused on areas that showed lower ratings from the last year which emphasized collective responsibility.

Lena Pankratz is leaving at the end of January for a maternity leave - Ms. Emylie Castro will be covering the leave.

We're currently interviewing for the bilingual school assistant position - duties will start on January 26th.

b. Parent Advisory Committee/ NCLB (PAC)

The notes from the December parent meeting will be shared soon.

Adriana Cardenas (Parent Engagement Coordinator) led the workshop, which was focused on learning through play.

c. Bilingual Advisory Committee (BAC)

Our meeting will take place tomorrow (January 14th).

Mid year budget updates will be shared.

d. PPLC

No additional information to be shared at this time

9. SY2026 Principal Evaluation Process

Motion to move into closed session at 6:28 p.m.

Motion approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.

10. Vote to move into Closed Session (Principal Evaluation Process)

Motion to end closed session at 6:39 made by Sarah Bledsoe. Motion approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.

11. Public Comment

None at this time

12. Agenda items for next meeting

- Upcoming LSC elections could be discussed (depending on how long they extend the due date)
- Jack will coordinate any upcoming forums, along with the election

13. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Sarah Bledsoe at 6:48 p.m. Motion approved by Pari Karim, Angela Papa, Conrey Callahan, Jennifer Nelson, Jenn Bricker, Mohammed Mehdi, and Cynthia Gaines.