



**Park Spanish Immersion School**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, September 29, 2011**  
**4:00-6:00 pm, PSI Room 252**

## MINUTES

### **PART I—Welcome/Icebreaker (4:00-4:30 pm)**

- Attendees introduced selves and shared a positive story about the beginning of the school year. In attendance were:
  - Corey Maslowski, PSI Principal
  - Carrie Jennissen, PSI Steering Committee Co-chair
  - Kelly Bunte, Steering Committee Secretary
  - Lisa Robinson, Community Relations Chair
  - Gwen Bruse, Room Parent Coordinator
  - Sarah Long, Amity Co Chair
  - Carrie Long, Volunteer Co Chair
  - Barb Falzone, Volunteer Co Chair
  - Jenny Strathman, PTO Co-chair
  - Lynn Giovannelli, PTO Co-chair
  - Judy Contreras, 2nd grade
  - Ricardo Franco, 5<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Heather Briant, Special Ed
  - Chris Watkins, PE
  - Kara Scheid, 4<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Rosa Sala-Healey, kinder
  - Heather Lopez, 1<sup>st</sup> grade
  - Maria Ponce, 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- Corey Maslowski shared the Meeting Norms that are used during PSI Staff Meetings and asked that the Steering Committee adopt the same. All in attendance approved. The meeting norms will be as follows:
  - Assume positive intentions.
  - Be actively engaged.
  - Honor time & be productive.
  - Speak your truth & accept differences.
  - Be positive/have fun.
- Carrie Jennissen and Corey Maslowski spoke about the purpose and overall structure of future meetings:
  - Updates will be brief.
  - Time will be set aside for work during the meetings.
  - At times, staff related agenda items will be addressed first, and parent-related issues later in an effort to honor staff time, staff may be dismissed and parent representatives may stay to meet separately.
  - The needs of family will always come first.

### **PART II—Grade Level/Committee Updates (4:30-4:50)**

- Lynn Giovannelli, PTO
  - PTO leadership night:

- Monday, 10/3, 6:30-8:00 PM in the MC.
  - Purpose is to bring more people to the table and create smaller, more manageable jobs for additional individuals.
- PTO event-
  - Tuesday, October 11, 6:30-8:00 PM in the MC.
  - Author talk/literacy night with Phyllis Root.
- Lisa Robinson, Communications
  - School board elections:
    - 4 seats open.
    - Candidate forum-Oct 26 @ City Hall.
- Kara Scheid, 4<sup>th</sup> grade
  - P/T conferences:
    - Early in the semester.
    - Biggest benefit is the parent feedback about child at home.
    - More of a goal setting conference.
- Ricardo Franco, 5<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Eagle Bluff next week; kids are excited!
- Carrie Jennissen, Steering Committee & Dance
  - Spanish Proficiency at upper grades
    - Junior High-National Spanish exam was given to 6th and 8th grades last spring. Raw scores were converted into PERCENTILES. Each percentile indicates the percent of scores in the same sampling that are equal to or below it.
      - Last Spring SLP 6<sup>th</sup> graders won
        - 2 Gold (95th percentile and above)
        - 3 Silver (85th through 94th percentile)
        - 8 Bronze (75th through the 84th percentile)
        - 29 Honorable Mentions (50th percentile-the national average-through the 74th percentile)
      - Last Spring SLP 8<sup>th</sup> graders won:
        - 5 Gold medals
        - 4 Silver medals
        - 2 Bronze medals
        - 11 Honorable mention
    - Senior High-31/38 passed 10<sup>th</sup> grade AP Exam
  - Dance
    - 150 kids signed up!
    - Can only accommodate 75 each semester
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will only do one semester, older kids might do both
- Sarah Long, Amity
  - 8 amities
  - Strong desire to recruit new families for hosting.
  - Suggestions to teachers: Send out info about the amity in your weekly/monthly correspondence with classes. Encourage families to “Invite an Amity to dinner!”
  - All amities rotated through grade level classrooms at beginning of the year
    - Staff got to know them better earlier
    - Easier to see where the best fit would be.
    - Good for kids, staff and amities (Corey).
- Heather Briant, Special Ed

- part of tech team
  - IPADS are being used by special ed, social worker, & reading intervention
- Chris Watkins, PE rep.
  - Mile is done!
  - Polar heart rate monitors to be used
- Corey Maslowski, Principal
  - Testing results will be made public mid-October, State shut down delayed things, MCA III Math test was new test, test was re-normed, last year we were using the old standards, the test did not reflect those, higher than ever in reading, closed achievement gap to almost nil
  - Tremendous growth in all grade levels in math
- Gwen-scholastic, Scholastic Book/Room Parent
  - More upper level Spanish titles will be available
  - Room parent orientation Monday, 10/3 in conjunction with PTO Leadership meeting, teachers can contact Gwen if there are additional room parent needs

### **PART III-STRATEGIC PLAN (4:55-5:50)**

- Explanation/review of last year's work -Corey
  - Shared flow chart for Strategic plan.
  - Mission statement was updated to clarify PSI mission.
  - Steering committee members' job is to look at those action plans/steps and decide where our energy and resources are best spent.
- Preliminary prioritization work time
  - Members were given time to read the Strategic Plan independently.
  - Members gathered in small groups to discuss specific action steps.
  - Members were asked to consider which action steps were specific, measurable, and attainable, noting that one needs to be linked to a building SMART goal.
- Communication Timeline
  - Members were instructed to submit their top five action steps to Corey and Carrie by Friday, October 7.
  - Corey and Carrie will compile the results and make a recommendation at our next Steering Committee.

### **PART IV— Next Meeting (5:55-6)**

- Thursday, October 27<sup>th</sup>

**Park Spanish Immersion School provides a Spanish immersion education promoting academic excellence, intellectual curiosity, cultural understanding, and bilingualism in Spanish and English, while also involving the family and community in the development of lifelong learning.**