

# PTO PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

Tuesday, December 13, 2022

9:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

Boardroom, Education Services Center

5776 S. Crocker Street

Littleton, CO 80120

**9:30 a.m. Welcome**

**Crysti Copp**

President

**Rachel Whittlesey**

Vice President

**Diane Leiker**

PPC Staff Liaison &

LPS Chief Communications Officer

Reminder: no meeting in January.

**9:35 am. Conversation with the Superintendent**

**Brian Ewert**

Superintendent

EPIC's course catalog is in its final revisions. EPIC courses will be available to all high school students. There are 49 courses approved by the Board in 7 different career pathways. Pathway information nights finished up last night with Aerospace's info night. Industry partners were there last night, and it was the most attended info night! Construction at EPIC is on schedule. Kids will be registering for classes soon, then they will be assigned to sections, and then transportation logistics will be worked out with LPS shuttles.

Moody is no longer standing; Little Raven is on schedule with the caveat that Denver Water is causing some concern because 3-inch pipes are not available anywhere in the country.

The LPS Junior Stadium is laid out; the concrete base for the track is down, and the field house on the north side is going to be bricked soon, work is ongoing on the interior. The scoreboard will be going up soon. Final surfacing on the track and the field will happen later in the spring (it's dependent on temperatures).

School year is progressing and feels more normal. We are continuing to see some of the fallout and impacts on some students who were not able to come to school. There are some gaps in kids' social development, but we are coping with those and meeting those kids' needs.

We are looking at student enrollment projections at this time of the year. We are continuing to be in declining enrollment. We have never gone back after October count to reduce staff, but we continue to watch projections versus actual numbers.

**10:15 a.m. Board of Education Update**

**Robert Reichardt**

Board of Education President

The Board has had 2 meetings since the last meeting of PPC. The Board also went to The Broadmoor for the CASB Conference.

East Community Center Update. East will consolidate with Moody in Little Raven. An outside consultant has been hired to guide and advise the district in the creation of a community center in the East building. Some of the community's "wants" are educational classes, small business support, wellness/health and mental health, food bank, sports and recreation, community space and garden, resource navigation, child care, after school youth programs. The next step will be to talk about governance.

Updates from the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee: everything is so far going well, with the exception of the water lines.

Grades 3–5 Literacy: How do we provide more structured supports for educators around reading? Scientifically based reading strategies. Report for how new literacy curriculums in elementary school are going (LPS adoption of K–2 was several years ago and last year was Grades 3–5).

Ford Decision with Boundaries: a couple of options were on the table. One solution was to move neighborhoods around (though neighboring schools are also full), or the other solution was to get more information before moving forward. We will hear from a demographer in early January. We will be looking to make any decisions in the fall so we have firm data with kindergarten enrollment. Any changes made would then be for the 2024–2025 school year. Would it be possible that we might need to reopen Peabody or Twain? It's possible; look at what happened with Ames. The district is conservative about selling property because we may find we need them again. Could we potentially use some space at a "closed" building for storage? There was also a request to prioritize Ford's teacher's children for open enrollment, and there have been some discussions with district's legal counsel.

The Board is going to be hiring a new superintendent for the 2023–2024 school year. The consultants we've hired, HYA, brought a leadership profile to the Board at their December meeting. Applications are currently being accepted and will be through December. The search is nationwide. At the January board meeting, the consultants will identify the 8ish semifinalists.

Supplemental materials process: parents in surrounding areas are sometimes unhappy with materials that are in the classrooms. If teachers want to bring in a new book, they request the district go through a review process on those books. Some teachers feel this process is cumbersome because it takes a long time for the review and approval process, so the Board is looking at how to streamline this process and make it better for teachers. The current change was to increase the number of annual reviews from 2 to 3. Review committees represent internal and external staff/stakeholders. It's important for the Board to show that we trust teachers and their judgment on materials.

The Board just approved a 10% pay increase for classified staff in order to improve recruiting and retention of LPS staff. Pay raises for classified staff will go into effect on January 1.

**10:45 a.m.      Everything you want to know  
                         about the district flyer approval process**

**Linda Jones**  
Director of Elementary Education  
**Clay Abla**  
Director of Secondary Education

Flyers come through the office of Pre-K–12 Education. They typically use Board Policy KHC and its regulation, KHC-R, "Distribution/Posting of Noncurricular Materials," to approve them. They encourage PTOs to also use the criteria listed in this policy. Questions can be directed to Pam Hubbard at 303-347-3334. PTOs should also work with their principals to make a decision on what to advertise to their community.

**11:15 a.m. LPS Foundation Update**

**Beth Best**

Executive Director, LPS Foundation

Happy holiday season from the LPS Foundation! Huge thank you for the support throughout the year but especially for Colorado Gives Day! Goal was \$150,000 in the time period from Giving Tuesday through December 31, and the LPSF has already met and exceeded this goal! As of today, \$162,000! 15 schools participated and raised about 13% of this amount (\$21,960). 20 Board members and friends of the LPS Foundation who built fundraising pages, which raised \$41,000 (27% of total). Some people donated checks (\$22,000). Secured some matching funds (\$29,000). 630 donors total. Average donation is \$258.

Upcoming events:

- Avalanche: Dec. 19 and Jan. 2
- Nuggets: Jan. 11, 15 (Heritage is singing the national anthem), and 22
- Spirit Celebration: Friday, April 14 at Infinity Park Event Center
  - If you know of anyone who wants to sponsor, send them to the LPSF
  - Baskets beginning of March

The LPSF would love to partner with PTOs for their auctions with things like donated entries to The Stride, etc. Contact Kelly James.

**11:30 a.m. Adjourn**