

**COUNCIL OF DARIEN SCHOOL PARENTS  
MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 5, 2017 REGULAR MEETING**

Shelly Skoglund opened the meeting at 9:32 am.

Kristen Barnard made a motion to approve the December 1, 2016 CDSP Meeting Minutes. Sara Parent seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

**CDSP CO-CHAIR UPDATE**

Shelly and Julia provided brief updates on the following:

- Field Trip and Enrichment Contracts - contact Susie da Silva and/or CDSP Co-Chairs if still having difficulties with approval process
- PTO access to school copiers - Dr. Da Silva is informing all principals of limited access policy to school copiers (note: copy center orders are unlimited)

**BUDGET PROCESS UPDATE**

Millyn Gaaserud encouraged all CDSP members to attend the BoE meeting tonight (7:30), as Dr. Brenner will present the proposed budget and likely review top-priority budget initiatives.

Saturday's meeting (Jan 7th at 8:30 am) will be a detailed review of the budget by cost center.

Millyn provided the "Top 8" reasons to be enthusiastic about Saturday's meeting, which include opportunities to ask specific questions regarding individual RCs and to influence important decisions.

Millyn distributed two items:

- A Quick Guide to RCs with a brief description of what is included in each
- A schedule of RC presentations matched with CDSP members' expressed interests

Note: It is important to have good attendance for the RC19 (Curriculum) presentation on Saturday, as proposed changes to the current teacher supervision model will be discussed.

After Saturday's meeting, CDSP Reps (and PTO Co-Chairs are welcome too) are to meet with their principals to discuss the budget. CDSP Reps will gain the principals'



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perspectives and collect more information, but CDSP Reps do not advocate for the principals.

Important dates in the budget process to note:

Jan 10 (7:30 pm) BoE meeting - Dr. Brenner will discuss the alternative high school initiative (a new building is not part of the plan). Jon Zagrodzky (BoF Chairman) will share his perception of the proposed budget.

Jan 19 (9:30 am) CDSP meeting - speech planning and writing begins

Jan 24 (7:30 pm) BoE meeting - discussion of budget modifications under consideration

Jan 31 (7:00 pm) BOE Public Hearing - speeches delivered

**THRIVING YOUTH TASK FORCE CAMPAIGN**

Carrie Bernier (Community Fund Executive Director) and Emily Larkin (Thriving Youth Program Coordinator) presented the revised campaign, pointing out updated images and text, which include additional resources for help.

The campaign will launch this month, coordinating with the Town of Darien Health Department's three-session program, "How Healthy Are We?" (which will focus largely on substance abuse in Darien).

Carrie and Emily explained the distribution of information and the planned follow-up actions, and answered CDSP members' questions.

Twenty-eight organizations, including CDSP, are endorsing the press release of the campaign.

Carrie and Emily will forward the press release, along with frequently asked questions and talking points, to CDSP.

Meeting adjourned at 10:42.

Respectfully submitted by Tiffany O'Connor, CDSP Secretary.