

Local School Council Meeting
September 18, 2025 ~ 6pm ~ Multi-Purpose Room
Minutes

1. Call to Order @6:06pm

Chair

2. Roll Call

Secretary

Carolyn Potamitis (CP), Jennifer Rath (JR), Maria Carney (MC), Ronald Yak (RY), Erin Tedesso (ET), Ronald Jacobson (RJ), Jia Le (Jay) Zhang (JZ), Karem Korkmaz (KK), Kristy Clark (KC), Carrie Gilbert (CG), Zacharias Pantazis (ZP)

Members that are in italics, underline and bold were absent from the meeting

3. Approval of Agenda

Chair

First Motion: MC
Second Motion: JR
All in Favor: Yes
Motion Passes

4. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Chair

First Motion: ET
Second Motion: KK
All in Favor: Yes
Motion Passes

5. Announcements/Introduction of Guests

Chair

None

6. Reports:

a. **Chair:** None

b. **Principal:** Went over report

c. **PPLC:** Committee met on September 18 and points were discussed.

d. **BAC:** Committee met on September 18 and officers were elected.

e. **LRE:** Went over Report

f. **Wellness Committee:** There will be a Spirit Week the Week of September 22, Canty Cultural Night will take place on Thursday, September 25.

g. **FOC:** Went over Report

h. **PAC:** Committee met on September 18

i. **Field Committee:** Talked about writing Grants

7. Old Business

Chair

a. Internal Accounts Report (August)

First Motion: RY
Second Motion: MC
Yes: CP, MC, RY, JR, RJ, JZ, KK, KC, CG, ZP
No: None
Abstained: ET
Motion Passes

b. Fundraising Report/Update (if any)

None

c. LSC Letter to CEO

Read the letter the LSC sent out and the letter we rec'd back from Josh Long. Motion was made to respond back to CPS about the needed positions.

First Motion: KK
Second Motion: ET
Yes: CP, MC, RY, RJ, JZ, KK, KC, CG
No: None
Abstained: JR, ZP
Motion Passes

8. New Business

Chair

a. Budget Transfers

Transfer money from cell tower to supplies for t-shirts and supplies (\$7,200 for shirts and \$11,348.33 for general supplies)

First Motion: CP
Second Motion: KK
Yes: CP, MC, RY, JR, RJ, JZ, KK, KC, CG, ZP
No: None
Abstained: ET
Motion Passes

9. Public Comment

Chair

Speaker 1: Spoke about daughter being bullied at a certain grade level

10. Announce the date of the next meeting

Chair

The next LSC meeting to Wednesday, October 15, 2025 @ 6pm in the MPR.

11. Adjournment @ 7:31pm

Chair

First Motion: MC
Second Motion: ET
All in Favor: Yes
Motion Passes

Respectfully submitted by:

Ronald Yak
Secretary

Minutes approved without corrections
Date: October 15, 2025

September 9, 2025

Dear Dr. Macquiline King,

I am writing on behalf of the Arthur E. Canty School Local School Council (LSC) and community. We are urgently requesting your assistance with a critical and time-sensitive issue regarding the need for Special Education Classroom Assistants (SECAs) at our school.

Principal Jennifer Rath has been transparent about the staffing needs for our special education students at our LSC meetings, and we were disheartened to learn in the spring of 2025 that we would be losing nine SECAs. Despite Principal Rath's persistent efforts and appeals, which have been denied multiple times, we are now four weeks into the school year and still lack three of the needed SECAs.

Many parents on our council have students with IEPs, making this issue not only important to us, but to the entire Canty community. We have seen significant academic growth in our students with IEPs, and this progress is supported by data from both the state and the district.

As the LSC, we are concerned that the current system is not transparent. The lack of transparency seems to unnecessarily delay the process of providing dedicated and shared SECAs. This process is impeding our ability to meet the needs of our students as mandated by their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

We believe that educating children at their level and with their specific needs is Chicago Public Schools' primary business. We respectfully request that a member of your senior leadership team attend our next LSC meeting on **Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 6pm**, in the multipurpose room or a written response. This will allow us to share our concerns directly and collaboratively discuss why the current system is not effectively meeting the needs of our students.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald Jacobson

Local School Council Chairperson, Arthur E. Canty School

CC:

Joshua Long, Chief of Office of Student with Disabilities

Julie McGlade, Chief of Schools – Network 1

Jennifer Rath, Principal of Canty School

Canty LSC Members



September 15, 2025

Canty Local School Council

Subject: Response to Canty LSC Concerns on SECA Staffing

Dear Members of the Arthur E. Canty Local School Council,

Thank you for sharing your concerns and for your advocacy on behalf of Canty's students. We deeply value the partnership of our school communities in ensuring that students with disabilities receive the services outlined in their Individualized Education Programs (IEPs).

Staffing allocations for Special Education Teachers and Special Education Classroom Assistants (SECAs) are determined based on the IEP service minutes of students enrolled at each school. These allocations are updated regularly—on a monthly basis—to reflect changes in enrollment and student needs. This process helps ensure that resources are distributed fairly across all schools in the district and aligned with actual student requirements.

Principal Rath and the Network Chief have been fully briefed on the allocation process and are well positioned to discuss how staffing and scheduling are organized at Canty to meet student needs. They will be the best partners to review the school's current schedule with you and to address questions about how services are being delivered.

We remain committed to working collaboratively with school leaders and communities to support every student's success. Thank you again for your advocacy and for the care you demonstrate on behalf of Canty's students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Long".

Josh Long, Chief
Office for Students with Disabilities