General Updates: Included what we know of this year’ budget. Mrs. Thompson reported that Lovett has enough budget to get through this year. In past years we typically have enough at the end of the year to get out ahead for the coming year by pre-buying items for classrooms, we do not have that kind of excess this year. This past year our teachers did a good job of pairing down and really focusing on what was most important in the coming year as far as classroom materials. Tomorrow Mrs. Thompson will be pre-planning for next year using a 5-year record as a planning guide. For planning purposes Lovett is expecting an enrollment for the coming year at 675-680.

Budget for 2019-2020- The district is still in a recapture period so there is still a budget concern district wide. Additionally, student enrollment is down across the district. There may be a cut to the PUA, potentially a $200 cut PUA. This is an estimation at this point that allows schools to be proactive in planning the 19-20 budget. Our Interim Superintend, Dr. Latham is listening to principals and being very open in sharing information and gathering ideas.

She reports that Lovett is getting what we are used to for technology, magnet, potentially Title 1, ESL, and a small fund used for tutoring and most of these are already in our budget. With what Lovett’s projections, there is a possibility of cuts to staff or resources. Mrs. Thompson will be looking at where we can fine additional savings. The spreadsheets will help the district determine what this means for school staffing. The district is trying to give us as much information as possible, so schools can be proactive. A parent had question about how we qualify for Title 1 and how the school can plan without knowing if we will have that money equally about $75,000. Mrs. Thompson explained that we used to qualify for full Title 1 due to higher neighborhood enrollment and this past year qualified for targeted Title 1 assistance based on numbers of students who qualify under the socio-economic form sent home earlier this year.

Description of Your Ideal School: Members of the SDMC were given a graph to fill out and 10 minutes to chart things/ideas that make Lovett an ideal school or that the members deemed as important in why they choose Lovett to send their children or to work. The objective of the activity is to be able to pinpoint what is important to us so that when looking at our budget we can put the money towards the things that keep Lovett true to our vision for it and the students who attend. After recording their thoughts, the SDMC members did a round table sharing out topics off their list. SDMC members will leave their list with Mrs. Thompson for reference when she is making hard decisions about budget and where money will be allocated. Many of sentiments shared by members were repeated from person to person including safety, access to fine arts, happy kids and adults, diversity, appearance/cleanliness of campus, parent involvement, and PE/recess/outdoor experiences. Mrs. Thompson told the committee that she would be reaching out for more information throughout the spring.

Safety concerns: Mrs. Gaines brought up some issues she has been observing at the Birdwood drop off and dismissal. Mrs. Thompson said she would include reminders in her call out that evening. Mrs. King brought up a concern for our walkers that had to cross the street near the park without a crossing guard. Her specific concern was due to an incident in the morning. Mrs. Thompson said that she would address the how to cross the street safely with the students, as they typically are the same as the group of walkers in the afternoon.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 PM