

P.S./I.S. 187
Cynthia Chory
Principal

Nilda Marrero
Assistant Principal

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November SLT Minutes

In Attendance: Cynthia Chory, Lori Uysal, Johanna Garcia, Isabelle Elton, Sarah Durham, Aimee Colon, Casey Melilli, Gerry Goss, Thomas Canning- **Guests:** Lisa Buksbaum & Ms. DeFranca

- Meeting called to order by Lori Uysal at 7:03 a.m.
- Minutes read and motion made to approve (Ms. Chory would like to change password reset on Engrade Pro to read as Ms. Elton)

New Business:

Agenda has been switched to accommodate the presentation of Soaring Words. Members approved the switch and the presentation commenced.

- **Soaring Words:** A Community Based Organization (CBO) created for the purpose of lessening the negative impact of serious illness by embracing children in hospitals via visiting the kids and providing them with positive words. There is a writing/literacy component to the project with an emphasis on social/emotional wellness.
- The programming consists of 90 minute units for K-8
- No cost involved in the program; the CBO will be applying for a grants to cover the costs
- Could be used in advisory and or art
- Roll out might have to be staggered in order to have all grade participate
- Soaring Words would be the one facilitating the lessons

Social/Emotional Needs:

- The kids still feel like they don't have a place to go to talk about issues in the IS. The election made this apparent to certain parents. The question becomes: Where do the kids go when they need to talk about things? Many kids were upset about the results, and they didn't know who they could talk to about their concerns. Parents and students are unclear as to what role Ms. Chen plays in the building. Sarah Durham asked if we could have Ms. Chen come into a meeting so that the parents could meet her and be introduced to the community. Johanna Garcia mentioned that parents are concerned their children are holding in their emotions

since they don't have a person they can speak to in a discreet manner. She would like for the administration and staff take a more concerted effort to stomp out bullying. Lastly, she said the administration needs to make it clear to the children in the lower grades that they too have a place to talk and feel safe as well. Teachers in the lower grades are more like parent figures where in the IS, things change a little. Students are still not using the Grade Advisors as a resource.

Meeting adjourned - 8:16am

Next meeting- December 7 @ 7:00am