

Cynthia Chory

Principal

Nilda Marrero and Robin Edmonds

Assistant Principals

349 Cabrini Blvd. New York, NY 10040

(212) 927-8218

School Leadership Team Meeting

Wednesday, January 20, 2016

Minutes

Present: Amanda Burley, Leona Brady-Price, Tom Canning, Shelley Castro, Cynthia Chory, Sarah Durham, Isabelle Elton, Alexis Higgins, Marianne Kugler, Melissa Mitchell, Jennifer Rose, Hope Traficanti, Lori Uysal

Guest: Amber Douglas

Review and approval of minutes

The SLT Chair Lori Uysal called the meeting to order and the minutes of the December SLT meeting were reviewed and approved.

Budget

- Ms. Chory presented the most recent school budget and compared it to previous budget figures. The PTA had made available \$15,000 for after-school programming.
- We received a \$3,600 DOE stipend for supplies related to the arts – Mr. Jennings, Ms. Torres and Mr. Tergilene each received \$1,200.
- Funds totaling \$12,850 earmarked for literacy and math support would fund one “Saturday Academy” per month in each subject in grades 2 through 8; this program targeted borderline students who need a push to excel academically and is DOE supported funding.
- In the future, should we have funding, it was also suggested that an academic program be initiated for above grade-level students.
- ACDP will provide funding for Mr. Jennings after school choir and morning IS basketball with Ms. Douglas.
- We are hoping to receive an additional \$11,000 for the “No Child Left Behind” program that we are due from additional students we took in this year.

Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP)

- After extensive revisions to fit the DOE’s overall vision, the final version had been submitted. At the next meeting, the SLT would discuss the school’s mission and vision.

Sharing initiative: Projects/Events per grade

- Ms. Burley presented the results of a survey of all teachers (except kindergarten) to solicit information on project-based learning in each grade, focusing on projects that the kids love and that teachers consider successful. SLT members added to this data with information on enriching projects across many disciplines; among the most successful project are those repeated each year.
- Project-based learning need not involve presentations to parents, but can be a part of classroom activities.
- Parent SLT members recommended publishing a list of project-based activities; a representative sample of projects could be mapped each spring, and examples of previous projects could be included in school tours and September orientation.
- Ms. Chory and Ms. Burley would discuss the details in the Consultation Committee; this could inform future planning and mobilization of resources, and revision of vision statement (a sub-committee will be convened to revise this statement.)

Lion's Quest (report on rollout)

- Ms. Douglas reported on the rollout of the Lion's Quest social-emotional learning curriculum – the lessons are clear and easy to implement. This curriculum includes emotions, self-confidence, and health (including smoking, drugs and alcohol). It would be challenging to implement the “lab” components of health modules with limited resources.
- Ms. Kugler reported on the successful implementation of the literacy component, which related to bullying (character analysis); kids appreciated and respected the lessons.
- Lion's Quest provided a kit of lessons and related worksheets; while ES teachers report that the lessons are beneficial, they are challenged in consistently implementing the in-class component with no set class time (the IS has advisory periods set aside). These challenges would be addressed before the next school year.

Brainstorming/vision workshop: Next steps

- The purpose of the workshop was to help create a vision for the school community. A sub-committee was nominated to draft a vision for the next meeting.
- Members made several suggestions for priority elements of the new vision statement, which relates to where the school aims to go (and needs to be accompanied by planning).

Next meeting – February 10