

SLT Meeting 10/19/2017

Draft Minutes

Present:

Charlotte Arboleda
Cara Biggane
AJ Cermak
Sarah Courtemanche
Karen Dahl
Jill Gabin
David Kerievsky
Nate O'Reilly
Scott Parker
Beate Sissenich

Jill Gabin opened the meeting at 4:05 pm.

Approval of minutes: The minutes of 9/28/2017 were approved without changes.

PTA Report (Courtemanche):

- The PTA will alternate morning and evening meetings to encourage broad participation.
- The Fall Fair was a success in terms of attendance, participation, spirit, and revenue. Revenue exceeded projections by 25%.
- Upcoming event: Purple Power Run, parent communication forthcoming.

Principal's Report (Parker):

- Chancellor Farina is scheduled to visit PS452 10/20, accompanied by her team, elected officials, and members of the press. They will meet with Mr. Parker, visit a pre-K classroom, the library media center, and 5th-grade social studies. Two members of the PTA executive board will be joining as well as two fifth-grade students.
- PS452 got into the *Diversity in Admissions* pilot program based on an application submitted last school year. This means PS452 remains a zoned school, but for pre-K and K admissions, once everyone in the zone has been offered a seat, extra seats will be given to diversity candidates as a priority. Diversity is defined in socioeconomic terms, referring to students who receive free or reduced-price lunches. The program will affect the enrollment period in April 2018.
- Staffing: All teaching positions have been filled, but not all professional positions due to a hiring freeze, so presently there are substitutes.
- Mr. O'Reilly asked if he could make edits to the CEP, specifically regarding how to measure progress in terms of disciplinary incidents. He will make edits directly in the CEP user interface.

- Fifth grade went to Frost Valley this week.
- David Kerievsky asked about when the grant-funded computers would be provided, and Mr. Parker explained the DOE process for large equipment orders.

Teachers' Report (Arboleda):

- Collaborative practices: The teachers are holding monthly teachers' meetings; the first one has already been held.
- STEM: Consultation with Teachers' College representative in progress.
- RULER: Timeline for implementation to be established on Election Day.

Review of the Bylaws (Gabin):

The SLT reviewed the bylaws under the guidance of Jill Gabin, who will circulate proposed changes in writing prior to the next SLT meeting, where a group decision will be taken on the amended.

Sub-Committee Updates:

- **Community Building (Cermak):** regular open basketball sessions.
- **STEM (Kerievsky):**
 - First meeting was held on 10/17.
 - Teachers need help with setting up science labs. Mr. Parker said that he was planning to reserve some time on Election Day for lab set-up.
 - Parents at the meeting were interested in Google Coding; Mr. Parker said that the program will start after PS452 will get the Chromebooks through the grant.
 - Keyboarding without Tears is currently used in 5th grade, but the question was raised if it could be expanded into 4th grade.
 - Sarah Courtemanche said that the functioning of Smartboards could be improved, based on what she observed in 4th grade.
 - David Kerievsky reported that based on his work in this area for the school, he thinks the main issues are connectivity issues.

Safety (Mr. Parker):

- The general response protocol is spelled out in a poster that was shared by Mr. Parker.
- Trained staff can enact the protocol wherever they are.
- He explained the differences between evacuation, lockdown, and shelter-in.
 - Soft lock-down: something was reported and members of the response team will see if there is an actual threat in the building. If threat is confirmed, the lock-down is a hard lock-down which can only be lifted by police or fire department.
 - Shelter-in: threat is outside of the building. Posters with emergency procedures are posted in every classroom; teachers also have signal cards to communicate with administration.
 - The Building Response Team has 6 members and holds monthly meetings. The meetings are not open because they cover sensitive information.

New Business:

- **Schoolyard:** a proposal has been submitted to the participatory budget process in Helen Rosenthal's office; thinking about involving WESS as well in order to increase voting power, given that they utilize our outdoor space. Typically only 2 projects related to schools make it to the final i.e. public voting round. There are other opportunities both through Helen Rosenthal's and Gale Brewer's offices. The proposal covers a schoolyard renovation (excluding pre-K and K parts) and would include a garden, and a play structure with soft surfacing. Karen Dahl suggested that we look at previous years' winners to understand what the budget should look like.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:12pm.

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