

- First item on agenda was w/ Mr Birardi, the attendance coordinator for District 30.
- Addressed issues contributing to chronic absenteeism and chronic lateness
- Birardi supports all 42 schools in D30 which is approx 26,000 students
- Chronic absenteeism impacts schools as well as families
- There are some families that do not understand the rules + laws when it comes to attendance
- However, the deeper impact is a lack of engagement
- D30 attendance rate is 4% lower than the city average
- 90% of attendance means they missed 18 days of school which means 117 hours of instruction have been missed
- Having all books in school bag and prepare outfits the evening before school help for the next morning
- Mr Birardi is working with the school attendance coordinator to have some incentives to assist in helping to make it fun
- FUN because it's all about having fun and smiling as a way to create an inviting school culture
- Possible incentive ideas are extended recess, field day or trip, most improved award w/ good attendance (after math tests in May, add a student survey to ask about other incentives that they may be interested in)
- Laser Tag was an incentive, 100 days given a certificate, trophy + catered lunch
- Communication is key - update all contact information
- As an ACTION item, follow up with district re: guidance on attendance based trips and report findings at next SLT

Agenda for next meeting:

- Look into crossguard
- Revisit discussion of pros and cons regarding implementing an honor roll society and hopefully get a consensus.
- dress code policy
- Title 1 chairperson will speak
- guidance on bonus trips
- Some parent voices:
 - difference bet honor roll and honor roll society
 - another parent strongly supports HR and viewed it as a measurable criteria
 - another in support of HR and said it helps to create a culture
 - did not support HR saying that kids will feel left out because they're going to work very hard and may just not be able to make it even if they work hard
 - another voice mentioned not to make students feel discouraged by using attendance as a criteria (or because they were sick)