

School Leadership Team Meeting- January 22, 2020

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Review of Minutes

- December minutes were reviewed and approved. No Corrections.

Student Council

- Alice Hill from 5-211 (Galasso/Harvey) and Sadie Gashi from 6-310 (Acosta/Loughery) joined our meeting today. Fun Fact: Sadie came to our school this from PS 96 and though she is still getting used to us, she has reported that everyone here has been very welcoming and friendly and she feels like her time here is off to a great start.
- Discussion Topic: Girls' Athletics
 - Since there is already a girls' basketball team, they would like to see the same start for football. Student Council feels that girls need to become more involved in sports and they might be more tempted to do that if there are specific girls' teams. They wouldn't be opposed to playing against boys if there wasn't a big enough turnout of girls trying out. (As a side note, girls ARE allowed to try out for any team that already exists at PS 83.)
 - There was talk of trying to get a baseball team together in the spring and Mr. Muccino will speak with Coach Jeff (girls' basketball team coach) to put it in the works.
 - During 7th period on 1/23/2020, Sadie will discuss other topics with Mr. Muccino since their paper of ideas was missing from the meeting today.

Old Business

- Astor Counseling
 - February 3- counselors will be in our school to begin setting up the office.
 - Appointments will begin in full force on February 24 when we return from mid-Winter recess.
 - There is already a stack of referrals (suggestions were made by classroom teachers and other personnel)
 - There will be a full time mental health counselor that will be set for individual and family counseling, during and after school hours. These appointments will be run through the family's medical insurance.
- MAP Growth Testing
 - A letter was sent home to parents stressing the importance of these assessments and asking that they reinforce their importance at home with students.
 - Although these scores are not used on report cards (except for in 4th grade) they do determine a student's growth from September to now and aide in teacher planning from now to the end of the year.
 - Because of their importance, the last month or so has seen a complete overhaul of all computers in the computer carts- testing for internet access, website access, and getting rid of viruses. There has also been work done to guarantee that each student has access to a computer to complete the exam.

New Business

- Emergency Precautions
 - There was a “Shelter In” (Main Building only) because of a mentally challenged man in the schoolyard trying to enter the building. The man is well known in the neighborhood and is known to be nonviolent and non-threatening. His father lives down the block from the school. The man was looking for a cup of coffee and was attempting to use a hammer to enter the side door of the building to get coffee from the cafeteria.
 - The shelter in protocol was followed: all doors were locked and no one was allowed into or out of the building until the NYPD arrived and cleared the situation. The mentally ill man had already walked away on his own. His father even came by to apologize for any disruptions his son might have caused.
- Science Teacher Needed
 - Our 8th grade science teacher, Mrs. Papaioannou, is pregnant! She has taken a job at another school, closer to home, and has given her 30 day notice.
 - Since she is leaving, we are in dire need of a Science teacher, which is a difficult position to fill. Mr. Heath can fill in for the time being, but it is in our best interest to find a permanent replacement. Anyone who knows of a science teacher looking for a job, please let Mr. Muccino know ASAP.
- History Months
 - For Black History Month and Women’s History Month, students will be sharing their favorite influential person’s story over the intercom on Monday through Thursday.
 - Since our Wednesday announcement protocol is “Word Study Wednesday”, students reading about an influential person on Wednesdays will have to tie their anecdotal in with a special vocabulary word that describes their person’s characteristics.
- Chorus
 - A vocal coach was hired to begin a chorus in the main building. This chorus meets on Tuesdays from 2:30 to 3:30.
 - Now, there is also a chorus in the Annex. Students from grades 3 and 4 will meet after school (also on Tuesdays) to work with Mr. Shapiro. They will work on songs for the talent show as well as other events during the year.
- 100 Book Challenge
 - The celebration for grades 3 and 4 was already held and the next celebration on the calendar is for 1st and 2nd grade. This will take place on Wednesday, January 29.
 - Mr. Muccino will make sure that invites to the celebration are sent out to parents.
- Rock Band
 - Set to begin after February break
 - A call will be sent out to students to see who plays what instrument and who is interested in joining the band.
 - This is for the middle school only.
- Bulldog Store
 - The store is looking for donations! Parents and teachers are asked to donate any gently used toys to the store, for both the main and the annex.
- Parent Coordinator Workshops- looking to team up with the PTA or Title 1 committee for the following:
 - Growth Mindset author meet and greet

- Parents would read the growth mindset book and be able to meet the author. There would be a book discussion and signing.
- DA Office
 - Spokesperson from the DA would come and speak to parents about bullying (if your child is being bullied OR if your child IS a bully- and how to tell)
 - A program like this used to come to the students- looking in to having the students involved in this as well- not just the parents.
 - Microsoft Main Store in the city holds anti bullying workshops for students as well (and then they do “coding” with the students)

Committee Updates

- UCS
 - Vision Screening: complete! Not as happy with this company (Helen Keller) because their testing was quicker but very disorganized. We still do not know when all of the glasses will be at the school to be distributed to students. Will definitely speak with C. O’Neal because she can work out the glitches with the company.
 - Dental screening: returning because some students still need to be seen. Their return visit is yet to be rescheduled.
 - Rock Band: UCS will be providing funds for the instructor.
 - UCS Mental Health Grant: the write up for this is due Friday but if you are awarded you can receive programming valued up to \$25,000 to come in to the school and lead mental health activities (e.g. yoga in the classroom). Mr. Muccino will talk more about it with Cindy.
 - Bronx Borough President’s Capitol Fund: sent in the paperwork requesting \$400,000 to install cameras in and around the main building. (Mr. Muccino is about 99% sure we will NOT receive this grant because we received a grant in the past year- to have the auditorium re-done. Even though this revamp is yet to be done, the BBP stated that schools who have had requests granted in the last year will probably not receive another this year). We will continue to resubmit the request for a camera grant until we receive it.
 - Attendance: down to 9% for chronically absent thanks to the work that the grade level deans put in EVERY DAY making phone calls home. Only 7 of the chronically absent students are from temporary housing.
 - Upcoming attendance events: March 26- Students receive a pizza party along with HW passes, bulldog bucks and uniform passes.
 - Last year there were 188 students who would have met the criteria (only 1 to 3 absences from September to March). This year there are 678!!!
 - UCS Upcoming Events
 - Partnership expo: next Thursday (1/30) from 3pm to 5pm. It is taking place at UFT Central on the 2nd floor. They have gathered 40 partners together for your school to choose from to help support you in any of the 5 pillars.
 - Professional Development Days (Mr. Muccino will put it in the bulletin because they have to register ahead of time.)
 - 1/25/2020 Academic Conversations. This workshop is for teachers in grades 6 through 12. They will receive 4 CTLE credits.

- 2/8/2020 Trauma: What it looks like and what it sounds like. This workshop is also available for 4 CTLE credits.
 - Forum: parents prefer to have the Forum combined with a PTA meeting instead of along with the Wellness Fair. This year's Forum will be held at the PTA meeting on 5/20. Rupert will set up the round tables with chairs in the Annex gym. Food will be served along the side of the room.
 - Next month's SLT: Sushi will be served!
- UFT: NO REPRESENTATIVE
- PTA: NO REPRESENTATIVE
- TITLE 1: NO REPRESENTATIVE