

SLT Meeting**12.12.17****3:30 - 5:30****Attendance:**

Bob Bender, PS11 Principal

Debbie Osborne, Community Based Organization (CBO) representative

Teachers:

Erica Goldstick (4th Grade Teacher)

Kelsey Petrillo (5th Grade Teacher)

Sara Jutcovich (3rd Grade Teacher)

Julianne Toce (3rd Grade Teacher)

Dawn Rosevear

Parents:

Anu Agrawal (parent, 5th Grade)

Robin Broshi (parent, 4th Grade)

Jordan Wright (parent, 1st Grade)

Rachel Schwartz (parent, 1st Grade)

Not Present:

Carrie Beth Griffith, appointed PTA Liaison

Minutes:**A. October and November meeting minutes approved****B. SLT Vacancy**

1. Robin has not received any inquiries about the position so assessing interest in the position is difficult.
2. PTA will send an email whose sole focus is to advertise the vacancy.
3. Dawn will announce the vacancy on the PS 11 website.

C. Safety Update

1. A few parents have approached Bob for advice on how to talk to their children about what to do when there's an emergency without making them anxious.
2. This could be a good opportunity for the SLT to host a workshop about this.
3. SLT members are going to research ideas, speakers, content.
4. Because there have been several terror incidents on the lower west side of Manhattan in the past two years and our school has been affected directly or indirectly, Bob is interested in working within the DOE to see if there's a smarter way to link area schools and better distribute information in the case of another event.

D. Racial Equity Advisory Groups

1. The groups are up and running. The 4th grade group has met twice and the 5th grade group has met once.
2. Three doctoral students from NYU are working with Bob and Cassandra.
3. Bob is getting feedback from teachers that the students might still be a bit uncomfortable talking about race but the conversations are getting started. One student shared that when he

gets on the train in Brooklyn everyone looks like him but by the time the train gets to Chelsea no one looks like him. Another conversation centered on who kids play with at school. Interestingly they think they play with “everyone” but are starting to realize that maybe that isn’t the case.

4. In one activity, students talked about who they saw when they looked at photos of different people in different scenarios. Interestingly kids looked at a photo of a white man on a bike and commented that he must work on Wall Street. A photo of a teenager on a skateboard elicited comments that he was bad, looking for trouble, poor.
5. In terms of what direction this group will take- the goal is to have any plans or ideas about what the group should be doing come from the student group members.
6. Bob reported that the teacher group that is studying racial equity is going well.

E. Book Club Update:

1. Anu reported a good turnout and some new faces present for the parent group discussion of the first six chapters of For White Folks Who Teach in the Hood by Christopher Edmin.
2. Although the book was written for teachers working in the classroom, she tried to steer the discussion to embracing diversity in our school community.
3. The group is completing the book and will meet again in early January. After this meeting the parent group will meet with the teacher group for a final discussion about the book.

F. Character/K and G/Kindness

1. This month’s selection is The Boy Who Grew Flowers.
2. Teachers talked about activities they did with last month’s video. The activities ranged from watching the video on mute and having the kids write subtitles to making a calendar of kindness.
3. Kelsey brought up the idea of doing a school wide Family Friday on the theme of bullying. She read the book One by Kathryn Otoshi and discussed bullying with her class.
4. There was agreement that many parents and students in our community do not understand the meaning of the word “bully” and use it when they are really describing behavior that is mean or rude. This Family Friday event could help clear this up.
5. The school wide anti bullying Family Friday will take place on March 23rd. The 2nd grade is not having a Family Friday that month so Bob will talk to teachers and see how they want to handle it.
6. Teachers agreed to start planning across the grades for the event.

G. Safety Initiative:

1. Bob shared our letter with other district schools and only one followed through asking to participate.
2. Robin will now send our letter to city council members, the mayor, the chancellor, the governor, the community board, and the New York state senators, among others.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 9, 2017 3:30 - 5:30.