



SLT Meeting

4.17.18

3:30 - 5:30

Attendance:

Bob Bender, PS 11 Principal

Teachers:

Erica Goldstick (4th Grade Teacher)

Kelsey Petrillo (5th Grade Teacher)

Sara Jutcovich (3rd Grade Teacher)

Dawn Rosevear (UFT liaison/ Teacher)

Julianne Toce (3rd Grade Teacher)

Community Representative:

Debbie Osborne, Community Based Organization (CBO) representative

Parents:

Robin Broshi (parent, 4th Grade)

Jordan Wright (parent, 1st Grade)

Rachel Schwartz (parent, 1st Grade)

Ron Miller (parent, 5th and 2nd grades)

Anu Agrawal (parent, 5th Grade)

Not Present:

Carrie Beth Griffith (appointed PTA Liaison)

Dawn Rosevear (UFT liaison/ Teacher)

Minutes:

A. March meeting minutes approved.

B. Safety Workshop Update

- Bob will do an abbreviated version of the school safety talk that he did earlier this school year, at the end of the April 20th PTA meeting.
- The Office of Pupil Transportation will be meeting with Bob on April 20th to discuss PS 11's implementation of its new bus safety measures.

C. Gifted and Talented Program Update

- The Department of Education approved PS 11's enrollment request to diversify the Gifted and Talented programs. Thirty percent of the incoming Kindergarten seats will be offered to students who qualify for free or reduced lunch. PS 11 siblings have priority in admissions.

D. Book Club Update

- The book club met on Monday, March 26th and discussed selected articles that dealt with racial equity.
- The group discussed the many things that PS 11 is doing well when it comes to addressing diversity in our school culture.
- One idea the group had was to reach out to PTA Executive Board Members about their thoughts and goals in terms of racial diversity on their committees and at the school events they are planning. Another idea was to take a look at how the school can acquire more books for our library that have people of color as main characters.
- The SLT team discussed the idea of having the book club evolve into a more action oriented group in the future.

E. Racial Equity Advisory Groups

- PS 11 will find out on May 25th whether or not it has been chosen to participate in Border Crossers. In the event the school is not accepted, the team would like to ask the PTA to set aside money so parents can attend Border Crossers workshops.
- Bob reported that there has been some growth among the students he and Cassandra have been working with when it comes to noticing bias. The students readily noticed bias in the world but still aren't really articulating if they see it at PS 11.
- Bob reported that the school has ordered books that have main characters of color. The books will be integrated into classroom libraries.

F. English Language Arts Test

- The test was shortened from three days to two days this year for the first time. Kids were able to take all the time they needed over the two days to complete the test. On Day 2 of the test about thirty students were still working at 2:00 PM.

G. Architecture Night

- Bob reported that a goal of this year's Architecture Night is to show students that architecture is a process and that things like discussion of ideas and drafting occur before building occurs.
- The architecture team will be working with students to build a wall.

H. Bullying/Conflict Family Friday Update

- Overall the feedback from this schoolwide workshop was positive.
- The team discussed the idea of having more schoolwide Family Fridays next year. The team liked the idea of having shared experiences and creating a shared language among the community.
- There are ten Family Fridays scheduled for 2018-2019 and the team agreed that five of them should be devoted to schoolwide workshops. The team will choose topics and create the curriculum.
- One idea for potential topics includes piggybacking off the theme in the book of the month. Another idea is to roll out some of the ideas from Ruler (Yale University's emotional intelligence curriculum that PS 11 will be implementing next year) so families can understand concepts their children will be learning about in the new program.
- Another suggestion was to do a follow up workshop on bullying and conflict that goes over material already covered and delves more into strategies for dealing with conflict and bullying. The Kindergarten classes will be repeating the bullying v. conflict workshop next year regardless of whether or not the rest of the school does as well.

I. Health, Nutrition and Fitness Update

- Debbie reported that several former PS 11 students now in sixth grade have returned and told her that they are surprised to learn that older students in their new middle schools can be mean to younger students because that's not the way it was at PS 11. They tell her that the lunch leaders program helped them feel very connected to and protective of the younger students in the school.

J. Mentor Program

- Debbie and a group of teachers- all volunteers- have been welcoming recent graduates back to PS 11 and helping them with their middle school needs. This includes providing tutoring, homework help, emotional support, and in one case, help navigating the process of switching middle schools.
- Debbie has been emailing the students every Tuesday inviting them to come back and work with the teacher volunteers from 3:30-4:30. Some of them then stay and assist with after school programs.
- Because of the success of this program, volunteers would like to identify current fifth graders and invite them to attend PS 11 summer camp. There's also an idea to reach out to middle schools for feedback about any PS 11 graduates at their schools who might benefit from joining the mentor program.

Next meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2018 from 3:30 - 5:30.