

## PS261 SLT Meeting Minutes 9/16/16

In attendance:

- Principal Jackie Allen, VP Sara Apful,
- Teachers: Stephanie Scarborough, Kristin Taylor, Jodie Park
- Parent Coordinator: Heather Weston
- PTA Rep: Nora McCauley
- Parents: Amy Huggans, Wayne Isaak, Curt Iams, Cindy Lobel, Kathleen Mulholland

1. Principal Allen gave us a brief updated on school opening. It went VERY well.
  - She is still having some difficulty getting into some of the programs still aligned with Principal Mills so we could not go over CEP
  - However, she wants us to very much continue to focus on the diversity of our school and programs that help everyone engage with those of other cultures and races
  - We want our curriculum to align with our diversity
2. Principal Allen written to Chancellor Farina about all the great things our school is doing with regard to diversity and that resulted in a visit from a Deputy Chancellor on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of school.
  - Principal Allen was very proud of the way our school presented.
  - She took him to two ICT classrooms and she felt that they were able to show him how the kids help each other
  - As they walked through the halls, she was very proud to see that every classroom was engaged
  - He seemed very enthused by how great our school was doing, especially given that it was only the 4<sup>th</sup> day of school
3. New Hires – there have been 6 new classroom additions and 3 non-classroom hires
  - a) Principal Allen's focus when hiring included
    - Intelligence
    - Passion
    - 261 values
    - Levels of experience – and both a lot of experience and little experience was considered
  - b) Curt inquired into the number of male hires – there were 3 male teachers hired. However, Kristen pointed out that, at the elementary level, it is 90% female so even considering the desire to hire male teachers, there aren't that many available.

- c) Pre-K is now in the main building – there were extra classes on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor so they were able to move things around. The old Pre-K trailers are now to become an art studio.
4. Budget – Principal Allen is still in the process of working on this and wants the budget person to come to the next SLT meeting to discuss. There are no issues with low enrollment so she is not currently concerned about budget shortfalls.
5. Diversity Training
- Corollary workshops to teacher workshops
  - With the gentrification of the neighborhood, non-zoned students have been regularly accepted in order to maintain our school's diversity
  - Rachel , a former parent, who works with Perception.org can give bias workshops. She previously provided the workshop for free but there will likely be a cost of \$1,500 because we will need her partner to join. This is more of a “meeting” and might may be the best choice for the first workshop – in the Fall.
  - Another option is Precious Cornerstones, which involves younger moderators but is more of a workshop, which might be more difficult for parents who don't know each other. May be better for Spring workshop.
6. Elections – there is currently no need for parent elections but there will be a lot of openings in the spring. As for staff, there will be a need for elections. Kristin has promised to look into bylaws to see how many staff will be needed and how elections should be held.
7. Meeting adjourned at 8:25.

Action Items for Next meeting:

- Staff elections
- Diversity workshops
- CEP
- Kim Hayden – participatory budget status