

## PS261 SLT Meeting Minutes 12/8/17

In attendance:

- Principal Allen, AP Alex Messer
- Teachers: Nicole Easteer, Jamie Gifkins, Stephanie Scarborough, Lindsey Sproul, Khadija Algamoos
- PTA Representative: Nora McCauley
- Parent Coordinator: Heather Weston
- Parents: Maud Abeel, Tanya Friedman, Wayne Isaak, Scott Jackson, Cindy Lobel, Kathleen Mulholland
- Nancy Sinatra

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 – prior minutes approved

2. Math workshops

- Will be publicized by flyers, emails and on the website
- 5<sup>th</sup> grade workshop will be first and held on December 3; other grades will be held in January
- AP Messer showed us the various website resources that are designed to help families at home. They include examples of problems and everything a family should need to help with homework – information regarding helpful apps is included as are math glossaries. This is ongoing and further information will be added throughout the year.
- Homework helpers – published materials that provide tools to help parents; they talk you through what is going on – these can be pricey but may be something to be considered by PTA
- Math night was also discussed. While it tends to be geared towards kids, maybe parents' overall insecurity about their own math fluency can also be addressed
- It was also discussed that Math help tables can be added to after school; Scott mentioned that, at his school, they bring in older students to work as tutors

3. Budget

- Principal Allen provided copies of the budget for discussion purposes
- We had a deficit of \$125,000 due to a loss of Special Ed children – although the money is given to us, if the count is down, it will be taken away the following year; therefore adjustments have to be made
- Our numbers grew overall but not in Special Education
- Some items in the budget can be moved and some cannot. If we cannot move certain funding and do not use it, we lose it. Last year, we were able to roll over \$20,000
- We have 7 pregnancies in our school which can make staffing difficult, not only from a budget perspective but in locating suitable substitutes
- QFI grant from Qatar has gone down but it still allows us to pay for some salaries

4. A librarian has been hired and she will start in January. She is coming from a charter school so she does not have a DOE license so she will be considered a support now and will have to work with teachers. She is will be a tech intern.
5. SLT Officers – Tanya has agreed to report at next PTA meeting
6. Meeting adjourned at 8:20

Action items for next meeting:

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