

## PS261 SLT Meeting Minutes 9/29/17

In attendance:

- Principal Allen
- Teachers: Jamie Gifkins, Stephanie Scarborough, Lindsey Sproul, Khadija Algamoos
- PTA Representative: Nora McCauley
- Parent Coordinator: Heather Weston
- Parents: Maud Abeel, Tanya Friedman, Scott Jackson, Cindy Lobel, Kathleen Mulholland

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 – prior minutes approved
2. School Opening – went very well
  - Building now opens at 8:00 a.m.; for safety purposes, the children are not to enter the building before then – initial issue on this front seem to have resolved
  - 8:10 cut off for drop off of kindergarten was harder for parents but Principal Allen believes it is important for safety – we need to have less people moving around the building in the morning
  - All drop offs, except kindergarten and pre-K, are now in the yard
  - Grab and go breakfast – kids are not necessarily getting on their way up – teachers are being forced to allow kids to go back down to get food. Teachers are working on it and it seems to be getting better
3. Budget – more details will be provided in November meeting
  - our census is currently 814 and growing. Therefore, we should be getting more funding
  - one grant has not yet come through but Principal Allen should have more information at next meeting
4. SLT Staff Elections – Heather and Principal Allen will confirm we are in compliance. It is possible that we do not have to replace Kristen.
5. Thrive New York – Amy Whelan
  - Pupil Personnel Committee to deal with mental health issues in the building
  - Heather will provide a date for a workshop addressing issue of stress
  - We are also working on addressing stress with the teachers
  - LBQT – language, protocol, awareness – all as part of our continuing effort to address equity in the building
  - Current ways we address social and emotion issues:
    - a) Restorative circles
    - b) Morning meetings

- c) Democratic processed in the classroom
  - d) Having Deer Mountain address during recess
  - e) Equity Team – root cause analysis – trying to find holes and put plans in place to resolve
  - f) Looking at Social Studies curriculum – is it inclusive?
6. CEC Meeting – building developments in area will affect our school demographics in the next 10 years.
7. Upcoming events:
- 10/15/17 – Unity Day
  - 11/30/17 – Language of Love
  - Kids being Peers – taught by the anti-defamation league
8. Staffing changes:
- Katie – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Math for America
  - Chris – kindergarten
  - Nicole – first Grade
  - Jillian – Science – part time – Principal Allen is hoping to make her full time as soon as we can afford it.
  - Hiring committee is very focused on diversity
  - New VP – Alex Messner – C-30 meeting to be held 10/17– SLT members signed up to participate
  - We will have several gaps during the year with maternity leaves – a sub was hired over the summer and we seem to have some good people lined up to fill in
  - We lost our librarian and Principal Allen is scheduling some interviews to replace her as soon as possible
9. Meeting adjourned at 8:15

Action items for next meeting:

- Math PD (?)
- No Place for Hate
- Amy Whelan Workshops
- Budget