

PS 261 SLT MEETING MINUTES

March 26, 2021

7:30am-8:30am

In attendance: Erica Davis, Alex Messer, Jamie Gifkins, Rocco Oppedisano, David Faitelson, Scott Jackson, Maud Abeel, Lindsay Sproul, Heather Weston, Aviva Gibbs, LaTisha Davis, Nicole Eastzer, Supriya Doshi, Camille Casaretti, Sung Hee Choe

1. Opening Business

- a. February Minutes approved

2. CEC 15 Discussion

- a. Camille Casaretti, President of CEC 15 was a special guest and discussed the following:
 - i. CEC advocating for: more guidance counselors and social workers at schools; stronger remote curriculum; finding ways to deliver special ed services; language access; Covid safety protocols; school safety; ensuring parents are aware of their option to opt- out of student testing; increases in city and state education budget
 - ii. Fair Student funding rates are being presented to all the districts (this is the method DOE uses to fund each student specifically). DOE is seeking feedback on the rates. CEC 15 has sent in a statement and is advocating for some shifting of the rates so that more money is going to neediest students.
 - iii. Pause on rezoning decision for subdistrict 3. DOE reaching out to parents and community to integrate their input in the rezoning plans.
- b. Contact info: CamilleCEC15@gmail.com and CECD15.org

3. Follow-up to Parent Workshops

- a. There was a lot of enthusiasm and engagement from parents in the upper and lower grade math workshops; each had >50 ppl in attendance
- b. Staff continues to think about how to fill the hole of not having a curriculum night and considering spring topics
 - i. Alex discussed one idea being considered is a seminar for parents on how teachers assess students to see progression of learning and how it informs the school's plans for additional support where it is needed

- ii. All parents expressed concern about their children regressing this school year
 - 1. Social emotional is a big concern – parents would welcome organized social events where feasible
 - 2. ELA focus also needed

4. Changes for Remote/Hybrid

- a. NYC has changed social distance guidelines to 3 feet from 6 feet in the classroom (but lunch must still be 6 feet) and families can opt-in to blended until 4/7
- b. City is in negotiations with the union about how guidelines will roll out so a lot of questions remain about how this will all be implemented
- c. No start date has been set
- d. Staff thinking about implications – will we need to back to three cohorts? Open new classes?
- e. About 30 families have expressed interest in opting in
- f. Thresholds for classroom and building closures remain the same
- g. For Fall 2021, no decisions have been made other than that blended will be phased out so that students are either fully remote or fully in person

5. SLT Elections

- a. Parent elections will be May 26, same day as PTA election
 - i. Maud will coordinate with Supriya on elections
- b. Maud will share final one-pager with Alex and Heather to get posted to the 261 website
- c. Parent members: Terms are ending for Maud, Scott, and Sung Hee this year – Maud and Scott have reached term limits but if there are no willing eligible candidates, they can run again
- d. Teacher members: Rocco and Lindsey will follow up on the teacher side and see who has term limits
 - i. Maud will check by laws to see if there is a date for teacher elections