

## **School Leadership Team Meeting**

Date: 10/2/2023 – In Person

Minutes Taken by Jennifer Aldano

Members in Attendance: Jessica Geller, Janis Soper, Jennifer Aldano, Kalliopi Alevriadis, Ingrid Nunez, Jennifer Trizulino, Nicole Arriaga-Bell, Elizabeth O'Connor, Olivia Ramirez, Jennifer Carrel Picerno, Athena Gonzalez, and Tara Alcaraz

Additional individuals in attendance: Katherine Tsimis and Lambrini Matsas, vice principals.

Absent: Sarah Frazier, Krishna Ruano, and Erin Bersak LaFarge

### **Meeting Convened**

Minutes from 9/11/2023 unanimously approved.

### **Principal's Report:**

#### *SLT Meetings:*

Krishna Ruano resigned because she will be unable to attend the in-person meetings. It is anticipated that Erin Bersak LaFarge will also be resigning for the same reason. We should be okay because per the by-laws we should be okay.

Ms. Trizulino and Ms. Morales have taken up the ESL roles and have done a wonderful job of making sure the students are tested, the parents are met with, the kids are in the right classes. Enrollment has finally evened out.

We have been given an advance to hire a teacher, but we have not been able to find one as of now. Looking for ESL teachers so if anyone knows someone.

A school aide resigned at the beginning of the school year and one retired. Looking to replace 2 school aides and ESL teachers. Put in the posting that Spanish is preferred for the school aides.

On a positive note, the bus strike was averted. We currently have 13 buses leaving daily. It is quite an undertaking, but we are good to go there.

Voted in last PTA meeting: Parents and Teachers now have agreed to move the parent-teacher conferences back. They will now be 11/30/2023. This is a different date than what is listed on the DOE website.

We received the state test scores and the scores are good. As a result of that we can confirm that we will move forward with the bulldogs. There will be basketball, Soccer, and cheerleading for the upper grades. There will be a winter season of basketball with cheerleading and a spring season of soccer without cheerleaders. Indoor soccer doesn't really allow for sidelines.

The games will be streamed live.

Several teachers taking on the coaching experience. This has happened because of the positive test scores.

Now it is confirmed that there is no real harm in having taken the test in the computer. So now we will move the entire school into computer-based testing. It is required for 5<sup>th</sup> graders for math, ELA and science but since there was no issues or changes in scores from an administrative standpoint, we will move to only computer-based testing for all the tests throughout.

Currently working with the 3, 4 and 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers about meeting with the parents about testing. This is based on some feedback received that parents had a lot of questions ahead of testing.

Teachers must do 4 parent-teacher conferences in the school year. One is meet the teacher in September and then November and March are individual academic; the one in May is treated as an opportunity to talk to expectations but now working with upper grade teachers to switch that night to do their meeting earlier in the year so they can do a testing meeting. Likely to happen for all 3 grades but as of now 5<sup>th</sup> grade is confirmed. It will all be virtual.

When you do computer-based testing you are not required to do everyone at the same time and it is not prudent in case there is a Wi-Fi issue. Spoke with Ms. Seitz (testing coordinator) and it was decided that in the month of April, we will do an overlap with grades 3 -4 and then 4-5.

They gave us a window for testing but didn't account for the major holiday in the month. However, despite not being off on the orthodox holidays after Passover out of respect for the staff and any families who observe no testing was scheduled on those days. We worked around it, but it makes for a tight schedule that month.

We will not be doing 3 grades at a time. There will be a lot of days of testing but not all the kids every day. Start with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade so they are 1<sup>st</sup> and they have some time before the science test.

We are trying to condition the kids to understand that they can check their work but not take all day and be confident with their test taking because it's not held against them. Technology provides for better administrative work because the technology is already in the classrooms. We can also watch the progress as the kids are taking the test. It was a good experience overall.

We are bringing back the Spelling Bee. Ms. Waxman will be the student government advisor.

The 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will be a part of the government. They do fundraisers for humanitarian causes.

### *Calendar*

Next Monday 10/9/2023 off for Indigenous people/Italian Heritage Day  
There will be a town hall safety meeting on October 10, 2023 at 1:00 pm in person.

10/13/2023 wear pink for breast cancer

10/1/2023 wear orange for Unity Day.

Beginning 10/17/2023 we will be working with a group that runs My Own book fund. An independent grant that gives each kid \$60 to go to Barnes and Noble to go shopping for books and is only the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

Ms. Agosto prior to COVID did a lot work for NYC Chamber of Music and will be working with all 5 the grade classes. They will be coming here and then we will go there and for a concert and they will eventually come to 166 for concert as well.

The new Superintendent has asked for each school to be represented in as many district level events as possible. On 10/27/2023 is the D30 Trunk or Treat Event. If you are able to make it, it would count as an hour for the SLT.  
Tuesday 10/31/2023 will be the fall festival parade.

### **PTA Report:**

Pig Beach was successful will share treasury report at PTA meeting.

Picture Day is Thursday 10/9 and Friday 10/10

10/25/2023 will be the outdoor fall festival will be in the street on 33rd Street. Starts at 5:00 pm. We already have the DLT permit.

Enrichment:

Started contacting vendors and pay out deposits for this year.

We have the Mad Science event, which is a social event and is free.

We have a new co-chair for communications: Ryan Kasal  
We started auction work. We are looking to go back to in-person. We are looking at venues to rent out. Looking at Melrose and Astoria world manor. We will keep everyone posted.

The garden committee still looking for chairs and co-chairs.