

## **School Leadership Team Meeting**

Date: 10/17/2022 – Online via Zoom

Minutes Taken by Jennifer Aldano

Members in Attendance: Jessica Geller, Michelle Perr, Jennifer Aldano, Kalliopi Alevriadis, Ingrid Nunez, Janis Soper, Anastasia Smith, Jennifer Trizulino, Erin LaFarge, Nicole Bell, Sarah Frazier, Krishna Ruano

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

Absent:

### **Meeting Convened**

The minutes from the 10/3/2022 were unanimously approved.

Jennifer Carrel Picerno term finished in SLT, she was the secretary. New secretary voted in is Jennifer Aldano.

### **Principal's Report**

#### *SLT Updates*

Meetings will continue in zoom for SLT, Principal Geller will let everyone know if the Governor and Mayor agree on a change back to in person.

#### *COVID Update*

Remains the same ranging from 0-4 cases on an average daily. We are still reporting to the situation room and still giving out the four (4) COVID tests a month to the staff and kids. Programing back to normal otherwise.

#### *Budget and Enrollment*

Everything remains status quo in both.

#### *Title 1*

Title 1 funding is back and meeting was had and all was fine there.

#### *Calendar*

First full week of school and no more days off in October.

10/19 wear Orange for Unity day.

10/31 we will have Fall Festival Character Parade. Encourage the parents/family members to spread out because the kids will go around the block.

### *Hydroponics Lab:*

The lab is well on its way and Cathy was the science teacher at 166 who recently retired in 2019 and sadly passed away recently and that was a shock. She was one of the more positive individuals to ever work in 166. Since we now have a science lab we will be naming the lab in her honor.

On 10/26/22 there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony, her family will be in attendance. Some higher grade kids may recognize the name because they studied science with her. It is a good thing to do in her memory.

### *Hot off the Presses:*

The Chancellor's office asked 166 to participate in a Scripts Spelling Bee. Ms. Smith who oversees the student body government thinks it would be a great thing for them to participate in and agreed to oversee.

The Student government will run the Spelling Bee under Ms. Smith supervision.

Ms. Smith added she received the 72 page manual and was still reading through it but there are 375 words on the list and 2-3 judges will be needed.

166 will participate this year and if it something that works we will make it an annual thing but if it doesn't work than we tried it this year.

### *Other new things:*

Two (2) school aides will be leaving at the end of the month. One (1) is resigning and the other came from another District 30 school and they want her back. The DOE will open up to hire new people. We will try to replace in house where possible. Posting will be live on Wednesday 10/19/22. Feel free to forward posting to anyone.

We want to hire ASAP. We have some people we are interested in from the last round of hiring.

Also need paraprofessionals for the kids. The last one refused to get vaccinated so she has to resign. We have substitute paraprofessionals but relying on them for an everyday basis is challenging so we need to hire full time.

They will need teaching assisting license level 1, 2 and 3. It will be full time but they must be licensed by the state.

Six (6) paraprofessionals are needed.

If you know of anyone interested have them send the resume via email to Ms. Geller. It was announced to the staff as well so hopefully we can get some recommendations.

### *Red Ribbon week:*

October 23<sup>rd</sup> is red ribbon week which is the anti-drug campaign. It is our job to educate the kids and based on feedback from last year the kids were not really

understanding what it was about. Telling them to wear a particular color was not translating into what it really meant so it was originally taken off the calendar. However now that we have a full time SAPIS (Substance Abuse Prevention and Intervention Specialist) which came out of the SAPIS Budget and 166 did not have to pay for her. Our school is the only one to have a full time SAPIS. Her name is Ms. Passie. And she will be spending time with the kids teaching them about drugs and healthy lifestyle. She will not be giving specifics but talking about making good choices, treating the body well, etc.

Ms. Passie will be seeing every class before ribbon week so the kids have a full understanding of the message the week represents.

#### *CEP*

Ms. Matsas and Ms. Tsimis have been working on the CEP since June 2022.

Ms. Matsas reported:

CEP was finalized in 6/2022 then it gets reviewed. They have been making edits and revisions at the same time. Staying with the TACO strategy but going to use it in a way to focus some things that are lacking. Seeing lessons in different ways for the kids to learn. TACO can be done with any subject. We have been using TACO for 3 years and have been using instructional based TACO for 2 years.

-Accountable talks- students engaging with each other through accountable talks. Conversation tools to help them.

Other goals also in all subjects: ELA, Math, Science all based on last year's data. Data acquired not just test but observation also.

ELA- focus on using informational text

Math- focus on Geometry skills a little extra because noticed last year it was a weaker area.

Parental engagement role- technology used to engage with parents, in person events where possible, class dojo, google classroom, email updates all ways to communicate with parents.

CEP was revised and resubmitted for final submission. Signatures needed on one sheet from all SLT members including parents. Sheet will be located at the security desk. In the next day or 2 officer Nuñez will have it in the desk ask for document for signature. Once that is done it will be resubmitted for the year.

CEP can be found on DOE website of our school

#### **PTA Report:**

Elizabeth became the PTA President on 10/3/2022 prior to that she worked in communications/graphics

Coming up events from the PTA:

10/31/22: A night of Hocus Pocus. There will be 2 sessions to provide options for parents as well as give parents who volunteer time to set up.

10/19/2022: Passive fundraiser at Panera up the street will be giving 20% of their sales to PS 166 to anyone who uses the code.

Social events coming up:

11/17/22: At the ready cultural food festival and game night.

Additional passive fundraiser:

Original works for gifts around the holidays.

PTA fundraising chairperson resigned, going to look for a new person.

*Questions/comments:*

Nicole Bell commented about red ribbon week and the kids understanding what was going on.

Ms. Geller explained that in addition to just explaining about drug use the job of the school is to also provide support for kids with family members. Victoria has been doing a lot of training before she rolls it out. She is being trained by the same people as Sue Colling (she is very knowledgeable on how to speak to kids). The hope is we can address the needs of the kids the way we did before.

*Testing:*

Ms. Geller reported that beginning of year testing was almost done. (i-ready, just right, etc.) The results of the tests provide data/information that helps set goals. Tests are completely diagnostic they have no impact on the report card and are used for us as educators to know what to focus on.

Ms. Geller showed the chart ow the date works. Blue/green shows at level and above, red/yellow are below and areas that need progress. The goal is to have more blue/green in the and even when a student is in the red/yellow that they have made some progress there as well.

This helps for the educators to know what to focus on.