

**SLT Meeting**

**10.11.22**

**3 - 4:20**

**Attendance:**

Bob Bender, PS 11 Principal

**Teachers:**

Emma Balmuth-loris

Deborah Forschein

Marketa Kawa

Jamie Schissel

Holli Weiss (UFT Chapter Chair)

**Community Representative:**

Debbie Osborne, PS 11 Programs and Community Based Organization (CBO) representative

**Parents:**

Inbar Aricha-Metzer

Courtney Lewis (Chair)

Rebecca Berkebile (Secretary)

Alexandra Cordero

Francesca Granata

Brad Hargreaves

**Minutes:**

1. Family Engagement

The group discussed the best way to bring families into the classroom in a safe way that does not impose too great a burden on teachers or interrupt learning. Each class will have 2 cohorts of students/parents – and each cohort will be invited in for at least 2 “family Fridays” during the school year, starting in November (which translates to each teacher hosting at least 4 family Fridays during the year, given the 2 cohorts). This will be supplemented by other grade-wide activities and celebrations throughout the year (eg wax museum, Rosie’s Kids, 3rd grade show), with the goal of having one event each month where parents are welcomed into the school. There is a preference by parents that family Fridays provide a view into what students do in school on a day-to-day basis.

1. Health & Safety (including mental health)
   1. The group discussed whether teachers should take on the role of discussing subjects such as puberty, menstruation and self-care with students, particularly in fifth grade. This may be a subject on which the Ryan Center can provide assistance. There was discussion about whether this is a teacher’s role, or whether this discussion is better had in the family setting, and whether the school can be helpful in providing tools to families to have this discussion. Courtney is going to follow up with the Ryan Center to discuss possibilities. One possibility is a zoom meeting for parents with tips on how to talk to their children about these topics, and to have a student-facing presentation in the evening by the Ryan Center or some other organization that families could choose to attend.
   2. The group discussed a potential program about keeping kids safe online. Francesca will look into what has been done in the past, and work with Alexandra on this project. There is a program for 5th grade students about cyber-safety, so it would be helpful to have a complementary program for families.
   3. Mr. Bender and the PTA presidents met with Brad Hoylman, and representatives from the DAs office, the Homeless Advocacy office, the 10th precinct, and Eric Bottcher’s office, about safety around the school. The meeting was very positive and there have been significant improvements in the last 2 weeks. The school asked for all charging kiosks around the school to be disabled at least until the scaffolding comes down. There will be more attention placed on the corner deli and the Rainbow Connection. Mr. Bender is hopeful that this conversation will lead to others that will continue improving safety around the school.
2. Social/Community Engagement
   1. Courtney will monitor the SLT e-mail box and bring any issues to the group.
3. Culture & Equity
   1. The group discussed resurrecting the PS11 Book Club. Alexandra will mention this at the next PTA meeting to see if someone is interested in organizing this. The book club could also read articles rather than books, as a possibility to enhance participation.
   2. The group discussed families coming into the classroom to share their culture/traditions. Teachers welcome this, as long as it is inclusive and age-appropriate. Some classes have trouble getting parents to participate in this way. One suggestion is for teachers to reach out to specific parents, which often results in an offer to come into the classroom. Parents can also consider coming into each class in the grade, rather than just their child’s classroom.
4. SLT Enrichment Proposals

The group discussed the proposal involving large poster photos of students. Although the group thinks this is a lovely program, we would need more information to determine whether it is manageable in our school setting. For example, where would the photos be placed, and who would maintain them? Without a management plan, this proposal is not approved to move forward. The parent who made this proposal is welcome to come back to the SLT with a management plan, at which point the SLT will reconsider the proposal.

1. Word on the Street
   1. The School recently enrolled its first migrant family. There will likely be many more families enrolling at PS11 in the near future. Parents are organizing drives to get these families the things they need (food, clothing, books, etc.). Depending on the grade level of students coming in, there may be an additional bilingual classroom opened. Families at the shelter where this enrolled family is being housed are afraid to enroll in school, but hopefully word will spread soon that PS11 is a welcoming community. Mr. Bender will explore taking Spanish speaking volunteer parents to the shelter to let families know that the school will be a safe, welcoming environment for their children. There is also a need for Spanish books in the classroom / library.
2. Comprehensive Education Plan

The school is just starting to collect data relevant to the CEP.

1. Adjourn

**Next meeting: Tuesday, November 15, 3-4:30pm**