

School Leadership Team Meeting

Wednesday, November 17, 2021, 3-4:30 pm

Agenda

Members in attendance:

- Joanna Cohen, Principal
- Jennifer Jerutis/Davina Benaderet, PTA Co-Presidents
- Sarah Ladner Gomez, Parent
- Biba Milioto, Parent
- Laurie Tamis, Parent
- Caitlin Gallagher, Parent
- Gary DiFranco, UFT
- Jennifer Tirado, Teacher
- Peg Galella, UFT/Teacher
- Ed Schulz, Teacher

Observers:

- Jenny May-Reddy, Afterschool

- Welcome! (3-3:15 pm)
 - Notetaker?
 - Timekeeper?
 - Who/what are you grateful for?
- CEP Updates (3:15-3:45 pm)
 - Focus on Reading/ELA goal
 - Review [our goal](#)
 - Review Acadience Reading screener data
 - Review F+P running record data
 - Budgetary alignment with goal
 - AIS Teacher focused on 1st/2nd grades, will focus on K later in the year
 - Additional staff intervention support in grades 3-5
 - Professional development focus on phonics instruction
 - PTA assistance with Orton-Gillingham training for special education staff
 - Purchase of phonics curriculum for grades 3 and 4 (Reading Recipe)
 - Professional learning focus on Recipe for Reading/Reading Recipe
 - What else?
 - Next month: Focus on Math
- Report Cards/Grading/Parent-Teacher Conferences (3:45-4:15 pm)
 - Goal: Review grading policy, report card policy, PTC policy over the course of the year to make changes for SY 2022-23
 - What was the experience like of getting report cards/having PTCs?
 - Teachers
 - Parents
 - Initial thoughts on:

- Revising grading policy (moving away from 1-4 and towards another grading system, perhaps mastery-based)
 - Revising how often report cards (with grades) are sent out versus narratives (DOE compliance requirement: grades entered in STARS 2x/year)
 - Delaying first PTCs (later in November or early December?)
 - What would be the impact of deviating from the DOE calendar?
- Other School Updates (4:15-4:30 pm)
 - DESSA SEL screener
- Next Meeting, 12/15/21, 3 pm

MINUTES:

- Welcome!
 - Notetaker is Sarah Ladner Gomez
- CEP Updates
 - Teachers regularly do running records - Fountas and Pinnell assessments. This year in response to the pandemic NYC DOE has mandated that every student be assessed to test foundational skills in reading & math.
 - Of the available tests PS 107 opted for Acadience. The Acadience data aligns with State Tests and seems to align with grades at PS 107.
 - Schools have objected to additional assessments due to lack of time and staff to complete. District 15 has the largest number of schools who objected. SLT discussed and there were questions raised about the amount of testing since the mid year assessments are already fast approaching in January.
 - Next year's Reading ELA goal: It was discussed that next year's goal should identify a specific skill instead of identifying a testing benchmark.
 - 1st and 2nd grade testing identified additional students who need intervention and were then able to be added to the intervention classes.
 - 3rd and 4th Grade will integrate phonics curriculum: Reading Recipe, which is a multi sensory curriculum and will be consistent across the entire grade level.
 - Funding: There is a lot of extra funding this year, though some of it is specifically ear-marked
 - Money for Special Ed Recovery
 - Funds to hire additional aids
 - Able to pay staff to prepare professional learning for colleagues
 - Math: Will be reviewed in depth next month - There is no uniform testing across school or grades as there is for reading (ie Running Record or F+P)
- Report Cards/Grading/Parent-Teacher Conferences
 - It was discussed and both Parent and Teacher members of the SLT agree that the first report cards are very early in the year.
 - Parents reported to teachers that they did not feel the grades were representative of their student.
 - Cluster Teachers were being asked to grade students after only seeing them 6 times.

- In discussing the possibility of breaking up the report cards and the Parent Teacher Conferences (PTC) all members were in agreement that this may benefit the community. The time table would shift to have PTC as per DOE schedule in November and March. Graded Report Cards would be shifted to mid year (January) and end of year (June). This would change the emphasis of the PTC from reporting at the end of the grading term to Parent-Teacher collaboration in supporting students before the grading term is complete.
- Teachers would like to have additional time to meet with parents.
- Other School Updates
 - DESSA SEL screener - This is a 40+ question screener that is mandated by DOE. The teacher is answering questions about the students in out-of-class time which align with 8 areas of competence.
 - Questions were raised with regards to the “end game” of this data collection and do not know how the information will be disseminated.
 - It was felt that this screener would identify children who were already known to be struggling.
 - It was acknowledged that SEL was good to think about but it takes time from teachers who already have very full schedules.
 - SLT Parents agreed to send out an email to the entire school community with the opt out link and some additional information for parents’ review.
- Next Meeting, 12/15/21, 3 pm