

PS 107 School Leadership Team

Meeting Minutes

November 16, 2016

2:50-4:30 p.m.

Attendees:

Eve Litwack, Pascale Pradel, Sarah Hunt, Peg Galella, Sheri Silverstein, Rita Palajac, Leigh Smith, Stephen Kitts, Hyon Su Kwon, Susie Jen and Marci Abromovitz
- Mariko Beck and Dulcy Israel (from the diversity committee)

1) Diversity committee

- a) Feedback on anti-racism workshops – 50 parents attended. Didn't get through entire curriculum. On balance, very positive feedback – interest in further workshops with more concrete action steps for parents.
- b) Teacher feedback: mostly very positive. Teachers also requested more concrete steps for working with students.
- c) Read aloud book – Diversity committee will choose upper and lower grade book on gender.

2) New DOE Regulations for SLT – Open Meetings Law

- a) DOE SLT now subject to open meetings law. Notes have to go back on to the website. PTA must post dates of our meetings.
- b) Notes must be available in 2 weeks.

3) Homework policy at PS118

- a) Nancy gives homework summary from parents:
19 Emails

Lower Grade Feedback:

Status quo is good: **2**

No homework lower grades: **2**

More creative/play-based (less-worksheet/rote) homework: **14**

1. Whatever happens, parents want homework structured so it can continue to get done in afterschool.
2. Play-based and creative learning opportunities are desired. Strong interest in moving away from worksheet-type homework.
3. General consensus that reading with kids each night is good and should remain part of what is expected/supported.

- b) Eve met with 1st and 2nd grade teachers and 30% of classroom teachers gave feedback via email: most like the structure and routine that homework fosters. And good preparation for middle schools.
 - c) Agreed for 1st and 2nd grades starting in January:
 - First grade could move to more playful word study, as we have in 2nd grade, but simplified.
 - No more math worksheets. Instead, students spend approximately 20-minutes/week doing math games or Dreambox. Teachers will supply games.
 - Reading expectation will remain the same.
 - Look for feedback from 1st and 2nd grade parents in April.
 - No changes in upper grades.
- 4) Investment in Rigorous Math Instruction – new CEP goal
- a) School has small influx of money because of higher than expected enrollment. Half of that money will be used to hire a math consultant to work on mathematics pedagogy with teachers, and possibly to explore new math programs. It will include up to 10 days of staff development. Targeting 2nd and 3rd grade but teachers on other grades will be invited to participate.

Next Meeting: Wednesday December 14th, 2:50-4:30pm