

SLT MEETING MINUTES
Meeting date: November 17, 2021

In attendance:

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|----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Emel Topbas-Mejia | 8. Karima Khawja |
| 2. Chris Jennings | 9. Christina Harvey |
| 3. Marissa Pashley | 10. Lia Gautier |
| 4. Katie O'Connor | 11. Gwen Kingsberry |
| 5. Conor Doyle | 12. Joy Waitkus |
| | 13. Melissa Velasco |
| 6. Jen Bennion | |
| 7. Einat Lev | |

I. Welcome

II. Review and Approval of October 2021 Minutes

III. Budget Update

Principal Emel Topbas-Mejia presented the budget, which needs to be inline with CEP goals. There are vacancies for a special education teacher, 6th grade literacy teacher, two paras and one aide.

Chris Jennings asked what happens to money that is not spent. Topbas-Mejia explained that it depends on the guidelines for the line and that the school will continue to repurpose the budget where possible.

Jennings asked for a big picture breakdown of the budget. Topbas-Mejia explained that some lines such as FSF, which is now at 100 percent, are very flexible. Other lines that are dedicated to things like books and software are very restrictive.

Karima Khawja asked if there is a plan to hire a librarian and do we still have a library? Topbas-Mejia responded that there is no line for a librarian but we can look at this for next year. Khawja asked about a part-time position or approaching the PTO or Friends of 187.

Jennings said the library is being used for elementary school art for the first time in a long time, which is great. I guess my question is, it seems to me that we need to choose one or the other? If the library is up and running, where does the art teacher need to go?

Various members made suggestions such as shortened hours, a part-time librarian, whether the art teacher can move like the science teachers, whether PTO or Friends of 187 could fund the librarian.

Topbas-Meijia explained that the school tried to hire one in the spring but they could not find a strong candidate. So they transitioned to an art teacher. She said if we do hire a librarian we need one that serves both the IS and the ES.

It was agreed to table to the next meeting and create a subcommittee.

Topbas-Meijia then discussed the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and how it can be utilized with goals.

Katie O'Connor asked if we can hold onto the stimulus funds for future years? Topbas-Meijia said the stimulus money is not guaranteed. FSF is guaranteed and is based on the register and that's how we focus on staffing. Based on 719. We actually got a waiver. We had a number of students moving due to the pandemic.

IV. CEP Goals

Topbas-Meijia said budget is inline with CEP goals

a. Literacy and Math Data

Baseline assessments were completed. Teachers are reviewing data.

b. Intervention/Extensions: Responding to Students' Needs

Each teacher has RTI built into their programs. There have been training sessions to support students with the need for intervention

Gwen Kingsberry asked about bullying and intervention. Mr. Mendez is working on restorative justice.

Joy Waitkus asked about how the kids are doing overall. Teachers responded by saying they are definitively behind academically, socially and with executive functioning. RTI

groups and after school programming are going to be key to supporting the kids with their needs.

- c. DESSA Screener: Not yet completed
- d. Wellness Council: We will create one. Staff, parents and students to look at wellness news. Prioritizing nutrition, not an official SLT meeting.
- e. Equity Team: will be meeting and reading “Cultivating Genius”

V. Review of Old Business

Tabled

VI. Sub-Committee Reports

Tabled

VII. New Business

- a. Covid Vaccine Site

Ninety kids used the pop-up site and the 2nd dose will be administered. We could have an additional first dose site.

Next Meeting Date: December 14 at 7 a.m. via zoom