

## PS/IS 187 SLT MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: May 8, 2022 (7:00AM-8:00AM)

### In Attendance:

1. Emel Topbas-Mejia
2. Chris Jennings
3. Marissa Pashley
4. Conor Doyle
5. Jen Bennion (PTO Observer)
6. Einat Lev
7. Karima Khawja
8. Christina Harvey
9. Liliana Nunez
10. Gwen Kingsberry
11. Joy Waitkus
12. Melissa Velasco

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### I. Welcome

### II. Review and Approval of April 2022 Minutes

Minutes approved

### III. Review of Old Business

Principal Emel Topbas-Mejia presented:

- a. Regents: Math regents will be in place next year. AP Dimtira Daskaris is meeting with math teachers and we are looking to build in the future. Science Regents is more complicated but we would like to do it in the next few years. We have staff for science regents, main issues are scheduling and lab.
- b. Pond: We may be able to use Fair Student Funding to support it since its capital improvement. We can only use FSF or a Reso A Grant for capital improvement. We need an updated quote from Outdoor Magic to use as a 3rd party vendor.

Gwen Kingsberry. The last quote was \$15,000.

Topbas-Mejia: Division of School Facilities has not engaged in pond work so this is a new project and the quote was more than \$15,000.

Einat Lev: The pond is urgent and we should try to fix it by summer.

Topbas-Mejia: New budget doesn't kick in until July and we need to look at.

When we request vendor approval, we need to show we have funding scheduled

and allotted.

c. Covid:

Mejia-Topbas: Increasing citywide and in the school. At least 9 cases. Mask-wearing is optional. We are sending 4 test kits home with every child and family members. Please inform the school if you have a positive test.

Joy Waitkus noted that Covid is surging in the neighborhood. Can teachers and staff model mask wearing, set the tone at the school and do more outdoor learning? Many schools want the mandate reintroduced. She asked that we show initiative within the community to decrease the spread within the parameters since we are not getting leadership from the city.

Chris Jennings: Administration cannot tell faculty what to do. But we can model and move kids outdoors.

Mejia-Topbas: We need to be respectful of choices but aware of increasing cases. Outdoor learning is more possible, taking kids to the park.

Lev: Can we promote vaccines more and reminding more?

Mejia Topbas: We can find vaccine rates for kids. Staff is fully vaccinated. We can share info. with larger community.

#### IV. Subcommittee Reports

a. ELA/Math Subcommittee

Conor Doyle presented survey to see how kids think they are doing in Math and ELA and feel about DEI/SEL issues:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MWXJkqCB9cl2Zu-AiPsC0CIR5BpentifvV6B1nIWnLo/edit>

Plan:

- Distributed 3rd week of May on paper
- 20-30 minutes
- Anonymous and will be looked at by grade

- Questions in bullying and cyberbullying need to be crafted
- Need to be specific on devices and social media, group chats etc.
- Teachers need to scaffold the questions, especially on bullying
- We could do an IS survey by customizing questions from regular survey (Mejia-Topbas will check)

Jennings noted that the term bullying is inappropriately thrown around when it's not bullying. There does need to be a question like that without scaffolding could give us skewed data.

Kingsberry: Are we doing parent surveys around the bullying question?

Mejia-Topbas: We could develop a survey for the parents and or look at the parent survey.

Khawja: Can we get a timeline for a family survey?

Members agreed that DEI and Cyberbullying committees should be merged. Next meeting on May 31.

b. DEI/Wellness

Topbas-Mejia updated: The team has been meeting with a number of organizations to see how to support students, staff and families for restorative approaches, interpersonal relations with a lens on bullying and respect. Groups include: Girls Inc. ADL, Facing History, Screenagers and Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility.

Whatever commitment we make we want to make a multi-year partnership that is built into the fabric of our school community.

SLT should be involved in identifying which organizations we want to partner with to eliminate cyberbullying and bullying and ensure we have a respectful learning environment.

Khawja: We are exploring a free workshop of teachers and a small group of students with ADL in June.

## V. **New Business**

### a. CEP Monitoring and Planning

Mejia-Topbas presented calendar of deadlines and showed the portal:

2022-23 CEP is available in i-plan

April-May: Develop preliminary goals and action plans

May -June: Receive budget

June 17th: Schools submit preliminary CEP

July 8th: Complete attestation

Sept 9: Get feedback

Oct 28: Revisions

Nov. 18: Submit attestation

End of Nov.: Approval

## VI. **Plan for Next Meeting**

Topbas-Mejia said the next meeting will focus on crafting goals and action plan.

For example, these organizations we are looking at are part of the action plan. They are the tool to reach our goal. For the CEP, we need to identify our goal and the action plan with the steps we will take to fulfill that goal.

Khawja: We need to be inclusive of IEPs and ICT when building CEP goals.

Jennings: Back to survey questions, I think it's important to be careful crafting the questions around emotional well being.

Christina Harvey: We should think about rephrasing the survey for the middle school so kids take it seriously.

Waitkus: What about surveying the middle school teachers about their observations? Will may get a more honest response.

**Next Meeting: June 1 at 7 a.m.**