

PS/IS 187 School Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

February 12th, 2025 - 3:30 - 5:30

Parent Representatives

1. Jackie Cruz - PTO Representative
1. Kelly Ceynowa- Elected Parent Rep
2. Jaci Czarnecki Thompson- Elected Parent Rep - Co-Chair
3. Michael Opest - Elected Parent Rep

Staff Representatives

1. Elizabeth Seymour – UFT Chapter Leader
2. Emel Topbas-Mejia- Principal
3. Jessica Mitchell - 4th Grade General Education Teacher - Co- Chair
4. Marie Marricco - 5th Grade General Education Teacher
5. Victor Tergilene - IS Music Teacher

1. **Welcome & Introductions**
2. **Review and Approval of January Minutes**

a. M. Opest motioned to approve. Jaci Czarnecki Thompson seconded, followed by unanimous approval by the remaining members.

3. **Principal's Updates -**

a. Class Size Reduction Update - Our school is requesting 3 K sections (25 each) instead of four in order to meet class size reductions requirements - if approved, we can maintain 4 first grade classes as they move up. There are no updates on the grant application.

b. CEC Elections - If yet to vote, go into the NYSCA account and vote.

c. Upcoming Events were shared - Safety committee meeting 2/13, will address recent concerns around safety in both our school community and the larger community. On March 13th, our School Safety Meeting will be public and focus on Respect for All. The PTC will be on March 6th and it is a nonattendance day to support professional learning. PTC are still remote (report cards will likely be distributed on 3/05) & our afterschool programming will launch in March.

d. Student Attendance is maintained at 94%, chronically absent (attendance is below 90%)

students have increased, student enrollment decreased from 760 to 758. Perfect attendance certificates will be distributed on a monthly basis & submitted for a raffle prize. Can we create an opportunity for students to receive an “improvement” award for those that have had great growth with lateness & attendance. For 7th grade families, attendance can be a factor for high school acceptance, families should be aware.

4. Review & Update CEP Goals & Progress Monitoring

a. Reviewed CEP goals for progress monitoring with a focus for the first three goals (Literacy, Math & School Safety).

b. Action steps to maintain student progress (80% or higher of 3rd - 8th grade students scoring a level 3 or 4 on NYS Exam & growth from 73% - 78% for math state exam) on state exams include supporting parent involvement & student progress. Mitchell will host informational testing workshops again for families in March & will share typing applications for students in grades 4- 8 to support proficiency and preparation for state exams (by 2026 all grades will take exams online).

c. Brainstormed ways/modes for the school to increase family engagement in school events. Possibility of CPR's in IS homerooms to streamline or grade wide representatives.

d. Members reviewed performance levels to determine whether or not CEP percentage goals should be revised. Based on Mid-Year, team determined goals should remain as is.

5. Review Parent & Plan for Student Surveys on School Culture

a. Most families responded that their child/children did not report any bullying

b. From those that have reported incidents of bullying -team believes that informative programming should be inclusive of ES, historically the focus has been with IS students.

c. Possible revision of bathroom protocols to alleviate potential & past situations/occurrences.

d. Possibly bringing the Yonder Pouches down to 4th grade due to smart watches and devices.

e. Inquiries - looking into the Box Out Bullying program revisiting the school.

f. Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility - this organization received a grant from CUNY - and our school was chosen in District 6 to collaborate and support students and families. The district manager can work with up to 25 teachers at a time as a cohort.

g. Student survey links (2nd grade will be paper based) will be shared with teachers, distributed by March 3rd and completed by March 7th.

6. Planning for Next Meeting - March 12th, 2025

a. Grade level data for attendance to be reviewed for trends.

b. Review results from student safety surveys.

c. Morningside Center for Teaching Social Responsibility - follow up with updates.

d. Revisit Family Engagement Goal & Action Plans for communication.