

PS/IS 187 School Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

March 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. Sherry Lewkowicz - Elected Parent Rep
4. Kiersten Hettler - Elected Parent Rep

Staff Representatives

1. Emel Topbas-Mejia- Principal
2. Jessica Mitchell - 4th Grade General Education Teacher - Co- Chair
3. Marie Marricco - 5th Grade General Education Teacher
4. Victor Tergilene - IS Music Teacher
5. Jomary Montesdeoca - 3rd Grade Special Education Teacher

1. Welcome & Introductions

2. Review and Approval of February Minutes

a. Kelly Ceynowa motioned to approve. Mr. Tergilene seconded, followed by unanimous approval by the remaining members.

3. Principal's Updates -

a. Mathematical Shifts (NYC Solves) - shifting approaches to build & develop critical thinking skills. New Curriculum options are Illustrative Math (IM), iReady & Amplify Math. The District 6 schools are engaging with faculty to determine which math curriculum to adopt as a shared curriculum in Middle Schools. Superintendent Martinez is collecting recommendations from every school in the district. Teachers have been provided with demo accounts to explore all three curricula. Collected questions to pose to the district - 1. Can a school adopt a program that the district may not recommend? 2. Does each option have a paper and digital option/component? 3. How is differentiation built into each of the curricula? What were the impacts of the shift to IM - positive/negative? Can we switch back if we notice that the new curriculum is not working? Can we move the units around? Can we modify the assessments for each?

b. State Exam updates - grade 3 is paper based & 4-8 is computer based (ELA - April 29th & 30th for 3-5, April 24th & 25th for 6-8 Math - May 7th & 8th for grades 3-5 & May 12th & 13th for 6-8). Saturday Academy will begin on March 22nd for targeted students. Securing iReady for students in grades 3-5 to provide additional support for next 6-8 weeks - this is a NYC initiative.

c. Attendance Rate - 94.4% 762 Students (enrollment increased over month)- Chronically Absent Students - 22% (166 students). Students were excited to receive the monthly perfect attendance award. School will continue to send out.

d. Kelly Ceynowa will speak at March & April PTO meetings to speak to parents about testing refusal procedures & impact on school.

4. Student Survey Results

a. Reviewed results per grade - "I feel like there is someone I can talk to" , "I feel like my classmates care about me" - should be addressed and we need to work on creating a space.

b. There is a positive to sharing results with students so they can address their concerns.

c. Is there a possibility for team building activity (Ramapo) at the beginning of the year for 6th grade students since we have a lot of newcomers?

d. Team will modify the last question to be open-ended for next year.

e. Formalize a more detailed transition to the following year - give updates and share "what to expect".

Summary from all surveys:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TAk9ddurVA1yw_cf1-18vP0SPb1bWGY7Q2izjcXPVzY/edit?tab=t.0#heading=h.rghl2jfccnpc

6. Revisit Family Engagement Action Plan

- a. Team solidified date for testing information session for families on April 9th 5:30 - 6:30.
- b. Jackie Cruz & Ms. Seymour met to discuss and look into options for IS CPR's. The IS can revisit the grade point person that can communicate with families.
- c. Ms. Capellan will continue to send out a monthly school newsletter. Parents can provide feedback. Ms. Emel will continue to meet with the PTO Executive Board. Sherry suggested curriculum updates for families from each grade level.

7. Planning for Next Meeting - April 9th, 2025

- a. Progress Monitor for CEP goals
- b. Prepare for testing information workshop (will take place after SLT - team will use the 2nd hour to set up)
- c. Next steps for learning surveys
- d. Measuring CEP goals for parent engagement