

P.S. 89Q
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 24, 2019
3:30pm to 6:30pm

Introductions

Monika Hannon - Kindergarten
Andrea Doremus - SPED Liaison and UFT
Trisha Mondal - 5th Teacher
Wendy Cohen - Tech coach, former 5th grade teacher
Laura LaSala - Principal
Ryan Matruski - 5th Math teacher
Joan Dorgan - SS teacher for 5th and kindergarten
Juan Fernandez - father of Jedry in Kindergarten
Anabell Rosendo - 2nd year - mother of Dulce in 4th grade
Claudia Gomez - Mother of Matteo in 4th grade
Talia - Mother of two students in 2nd and 3rd grade
Irene - Mother of two students in Kinder and 2nd grade, PTA President
Marcia Elwarari - Staff developer K-2
Sarita Perez - mother of Brenda in 4th and son in Kinder

Bylaws

Table until next meeting

Stipend

Clarified that only attending SLT meetings and SLT trainings count for paid hours
Training sent out by Mayra on October 3rd at P.S. 58 is PAID! Two sessions 3:15-5:15, 5:30 - 7:30
Ryan Matruski will attend to represent staff

Positions on the Team

Chairperson - Creates agenda, send out reminders, keep law and order

Monika nominated Joan Dorgan

Andrea seconded the nomination

No one else nominated

Team agreed Joan Dorgan will be Chairperson

Notetaker - Take minutes, translate, send out to team

Monika nominated Wendy Cohen

Andrea seconded the nomination

No one else nominated

Team agreed Wendy Cohen will take minutes

Time Keeper - Watch time to make sure do not go over

Joan nominated Andrea Doremus

Wendy seconded the nomination

No one else nominated

Team agreed Andrea Doremus will be the time keeper

Agenda Items

Approve June Minutes

Monika made a motion to approve minutes

Wendy seconded

Principal's Report

Many schools lost money! We are one of those schools, but we are OKAY!

LaSala made a lot of difficult decisions about how to spend school funding - some things we used to spend money on were not essential to student learning.

When we put the children first, it's easier to make difficult choices.

We were able to add a technology coach, and the extra SETSS teacher for at risk students.

Since I became principal 4 years ago the students who had IEPS went from 4% proficiency to 18% proficiency in ELA.

ENL students have had a similar jump.

As a whole school, we have reached 50% ELA proficiency up from 33%

Spending money on instruction, training and spending on teachers, is making a big difference
She's not spending money for pens or a fancy computer for herself, the resources are being spent on the students.

We received a budget for 1,647 children, but right now we have 1,725, so as long as the number of students stays the same by end of October they will owe us about \$700,000.

That will help us with after school program, Saturday program, other expenses that we have had to cut.

We were still have after school program and Saturday program.

The difficult choices she made as principal were so that we did not have to take anything away from children.

This year we will do more work on Social Emotional wellbeing with students, staff, and families.
Two teachers will work with children to regulate their feelings if they feel frustrated or if they are struggling with their learning, because that helps them do better in class.

You'll start to hear children saying words and phrases that are new and different, and it comes from the SEL curriculum.

The children have a "worry monster" which is a stuffed animal that the students can tell concerns to.

In each classroom there is a Calm Basket - stuffed animal, glitter bottle, clay, star that expands, etc.
For next month's meeting, we can visit the classroom and look at one of the baskets. Pictures of the resources will also be shared at the PTA meeting on 9/25.

Last year we started on a small scale to see what worked, and then expanded to whole school.

The chancellor visited the school and he loved it.

We'll also have trainings for the parents about the SEL curriculum, including meditations in Spanish.

Parent questions about Principal's Report

Parents agreed it will be good for students when it comes to testing time.

Q - Since you have less money, how did you make it work?

A - Cut supplies, cut photocopies, put the majority of documents online, teachers are writing grants, changed the hours for the school aids. None of the school aids were fired and kept their benefits. It was a difficult

Q - School supplies, notebooks, old curriculum have been found in the trash and these items could be used. Why?

A - No books are allowed to be thrown away, unless they are damaged or culturally inappropriate. Sometimes things are affected by mouse infestation and then they must be thrown away. Last year we started to collect unwanted books to give away. We have many collections of free books to give away throughout the school for parent events. We also recycle old markers through Crayola. Mayra can do some education with parents about school recycling and how they are used.

Pablo and CEP Goals - Pablo will come to the next meeting.

Calendar - Dates for the Year

All Tuesdays! Last Tuesday of the month (with the goal to coincide with D24 CEC)

September 24th

October 29th

November 19th

December 17th

January 28th

February 25th

March 31st

April 28th

May 19th

June 16th This may change because we have to finish last meeting before a certain date**

Any other questions?

Q: Is there a new security guard? Are we getting one? We've brought this up at previous meetings.

A: We mention it every month at the safety meeting. LaSala requested it, UFT requested it, but they say MS and HS have priority over elementary schools. We ask for the parents to help put pressure on to help us get another security guard.

Q: Parents have seen drugs outside the school. What is being done about it?

A: The administration is aware of the issue. They reached out to local NYPD who came to visit earlier this week. The liaison for our area is in communication with admin and they are going to patrol the area in the evenings.

Q: Parents have seen students opening the bathroom windows and shouting outside (after school hours). What if they are interacting with the students with drugs outside?

A: We will notify the CCNY after school program so that they can pay closer attention. During the school day we have security guards, school aids, and other school staff monitoring the hallways and bathrooms.

Q: Next time, could we review the resources on the link online?

A: Yes, we could bring in some laptops and look at the resources together.

Joan made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Wendy seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.