



THE ANDERSON SCHOOL (P.S. 334)

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM

SLT Meeting, May 15, 2013

Minutes

In Attendance: *Jodi Hyde - principal, Diane Heith - K-2 parent rep, Nicole Cardinale - elementary teacher rep, Joy Heinze - PTA co-pres, Laura Mount - 6-8 parent rep, Paul Radvany 5-8 at large parent rep, Leni Cohen -K-2 teacher rep, Robert Moy - UFT rep, Diane Kirksey-Floyd - 3-5 teacher rep, Paula Seefeldt - 3-5 parent rep, Mindy Wigutow - PTA parent rep, Nicole Chandonnet - 6-8 teacher rep, Rina Cohen Schwarz K-4 at large parent rep, Tim Rodgers teacher rep at-large, UFT Representative*

Meeting commenced at 3:35.

1. CEP – Principal Hyde reported that one of our CEP goals has been met, specifically, goal number 4 which proposed that 85% of students in grades 2-8 would enter and compete in an academic competition. Some of the competitions we participated in were; Debate, Science Olympiad, Math Kangaroo, Continental Math league, Math Olympiad, Math Team Masterminds, Wordmasters, National Geographic Geography Bee, Spelling Bee, and Scholastic Writing . The goal was met before May with well more than 85% of students participating. Additionally, we placed in many of these at the highest level. One of our students is actually traveling to the National Spelling Bee the first week of June. She will be sponsored by the Daily News, and Mr. Moy will accompany her along with her family.

2. Science committee – The committee reviewed the curriculum for k-8. In light of how well we did in the Science Olympiad and the amount of interest, we would like to increase participation and participate at an earlier junior version. Mr. Moy went to a science pd at the science museum, and is hoping to do a science fair curriculum next year. Since all grades can't participate in a fair in a meaningful way, the initial plan might be to have the grade participate at the end of each of science teachers tenure, namely 3rd, 6th and 8th grades. Some planning will be done over the summer and the needs will be assessed, including staffing and budgetary. We may look into some grants for the science fair.

3. June enrichment events committee – This committee has scheduled several “edutainment” events for the end of the year in June. The National circus project will be here on June 12th. K-6 will watch the performance in the auditorium, and then for grade 3-6 there will be workshops all day commencing after the show.

The K-7 will be partnering with the Historical Society. We will be matching up grades k-4 and 1-5 with their reading buddies for an hour long scavenger hunt in the museum. At 10:15-11:45 the 2nd and 6th, and 3rd and 7th grades will be participating as well.

Shakespeare sings will be doing a performance for grades 4-7 on June 11th.

On June 18th or 19th the 7th and 8th grades during math class will become stockbrokers for a day; we are currently looking for middle school parents to help with the process. The computers on the rolling carts will be used so the kids can watch the stocks trading.

Other events that are in the works, but not yet scheduled are:

Hollyrock entertainment – a game show played with 200-250 people per assembly.

6/25 day before school ends - Music - percussion circle

DNA testing person - 3rd and 4th grade -

Wacky storefront science , robofun, for k-1

4. Library curriculum – Librarian is tasked with teaching a lesson including web research and tech lessons, as well as, allowing the kids to take out books. Some kids may be frustrated by not being able to browse and take out books as they are accustomed to doing. This is a secondary purpose for the library and the kids need to understand that. Learning leaders are in place to help facilitate both goals. The system is now linked with the public library and it should be more seamless going forward.

Additionally, the librarian is very aware of the curriculum in the various grades and is trying to align her teaching with what is happening in the classrooms.

5. Budget Issues – A question about whether there are enough AT's in the school came up. This year, the admin hired 15 consistent full time teaching assistants, rather than 30 part time AT's. This has worked much better from an administration standpoint and provided a consistency for the teachers and the students. The PTA would like to fund as many assistants as are required. Similarly they would like to assist in funding music, as well as, drama. Admin will reassess how we can further help support these two initiatives. We were hoping to do a time management course for the 5th grade in the Fall. This has been tabled until next months meeting.

6. 5th grade bubble – What will happen when the three classes move into the otherwise compartmentalized middle school. One of the possibilities –is that the 3 5th grades become it's own cohort. There would be three homerooms (math, ela, ss). The students would stay in their rooms for those 3 core subjects. They would then move for Science, Art, Gym, Music, Keyboard and Spanish.). This will require 3 full time teachers. The kids will not have lockers. In the next year, we will have a double bubble class and it is too difficult to map it out this early. Other options are still being investigated. A parent questioned whether there is a possibility that after the bubble class moves thru, will the DOE allow us to remain a 3 section school?

7. Admissions process for k-2 incoming siblings - parents are very worried about the rising k'ers. There are currently 10 qualified siblings for 2 1st grade seats. The DOE is deciding, the school has nothing to do with it. It appears that the top 99 will be put into a lottery. 28 first graders are as much as can be handled, which is why only two spots are available.

8. 4th grade Spanish – Ms. Sanborne is the new 4th grade spanish teacher for the remaining 5 weeks of school.

9. Middle school boundaries for outdoor lunch - east side of amsterdam at 78th has healthier choices for our middle school students, but is currently outside the boundary. Jodi will look at map to see boundaries and assess if they should be manipulated. If students are caught outside of the boundaries, they lose their lunch pass.

10. Dress code will be sent out again now that the warm weather is here. While there are sometimes repeat offenders, administration confirms it is enforced as best as can be expected. As always, the parents must be partners in enforcing the code.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm.