

PS85Q The Judge Charles J. Vallone School
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SLT Meeting Minute October 15, 2024

Mrs. Chang welcomed everyone to the October meeting.

• School - Survey Review

Mrs. Parada presented the results of the latest school survey. Mrs. Chang asked parents how to improve communication. The response was that some parents feel that they want teachers to be more responsive on Class Dojo. Additionally they would like to know how their children are doing in school. Parents were also concerned that they no longer had Tuesday office hours to contact teachers. Mrs. Chang agreed that in order for parents to be true partners in their children's education. Ms. Lin added that contractually teachers no longer had designated specific parent office hours. She explained that parent engagement is spread throughout the week to allow for more flexibility. We have a schoolwide Class Dojo to communicate with families. Teachers' contractual time is 8:10-2:30 and we must be mindful and respectful of that. Mrs. Chang offered to send communication to families to explain that parent engagement is throughout the week. We continued to review the survey results and Mrs. Chang asked for suggestions and recommendations for improvement. Parents enjoyed the Art showcase at the end of last year. They also recognized the International Night showcasing our diversity and cultures. Mrs. Parada invited everyone to share if there are community events or cultural holidays so that we can recognize and celebrate anything involving our community.

• Instructional Focus

Mrs. Parada shared the instructional focus with the team. After examining the state test scores, as well as the data from Iready we develop the Instructional focus in order to be aligned with the district.

NY State Exam Results 2024

Mrs. Parada shared the results of last year's Math and ELA state test results. In Math, Grades 3- 82 students were tested. 8 students scored level 1, 23 students scored level 2, 64% 52 students scored 3 or 4. In Grade 4, 84 students were tested. 11 students earned a level 1, 7 students received a level 2, 28 students earned level 3 and 38 students received a level 4 Grade 5, 20 students earned level 1, 14 received level 2, 22 students received level 3, and 27 earned a level 4. The entire school scored 67%. In ELA the data showed, Grades 3- 82 students were tested. 13 students scored level 1, 23 students scored level 2, 20 students scored 3, and 53% scored 4. In Grade 4, we were at 71% Grade 5, scored 64 % Mrs. Chang added that we use this data to drive our instructional focus with an emphasis on standards.

- **School Construction Updates**

Mrs. Chang reported that our grade 4 and 5 population have moved to the first and second floors of the main building based on the findings of moisture in the walls. Additionally, the hydroponics lab has been relocated to the first floor. Children were informed that they cannot go up to the third floor. The school construction authority had been working on the water fountains in the main building cafeteria. In the annex the locks have been added to the back doors. Hooks had been installed in the classrooms that were missing. Mrs. Chang added that we were working on reopening the early childhood playground. The garden area has been closed. The playground should be cleaned up and reopened soon. The auditorium upgrade also had permits in place to begin work. A question arose about the alarm that had been going off after school hours and late at night. Mrs. Chang explained that SBA answered that they check alarms at 6am. It seemed that the alarms were going off at other times. Mrs. Chang asked for specific times so that she could inquire about specific times including the alarms going off on October 14.

- **Awards Ceremony – October 30, 2024**

Mrs. Chang informed us that the ceremony would take place in the annex's gymnasium, by grade. The space is not large enough to accommodate the entire school. Parents would be informed of their children's specific time.

- **Character Day Parade – October 31, 2024**

Mrs. Chang told us that the character parade was meant to be fun and not scary. We would start at 9am in front of the annex. She added that we would wrap around the main building. Parents asked for a map of the parade route. Mrs. Chang repeated the route with explicit instructions of how the parade would run.

- **Anti-Bullying Month Activities**

Mrs. Chang reported that anti bullying assemblies were being planned with our guidance counselor and social worker who are mandated to plan these events. Cyber bullying would be another focus.

- **Safety and Security**

Ms. Samolis discussed the safety plan which included both buildings. Fire drills, exits, safety officers, recess and playground times would be included in the plan. Mrs. Chang added that our safety officer was trained in the cameras and specific safety incidents.

- **Parent Engagement. Art Appreciation Day – October 25, 2024**

Mrs. Chang talked about this special event which would allow parents to have a workshop with our art teacher. Students would not be included in the workshop because there is not enough room.

- **Benchmark Assessments**

Mrs. Chang informed us that students were engaged in beginning of the year benchmark assessments. Iready, Acadience data would be collected. Teachers would use this data to become informed on who needed academic intervention.

- **Arts Grants**

Mrs. Samolis informed us of an after school program for 5th grade students. There would be 18 sessions meeting twice a week. The focus would be music and theater. Additionally another grant would be for 4th graders focused on dance and writing. Kindergarten students also received a grant for visual arts.

- **Dismissal**

Mrs. Chang asked parents not to pull children off the line before dismissal. She explained that for the safety of our students all families needed to be patient for the class to get to the dismissal spot. Discussion ensued about students being pulled off the lines in the building. Mrs. Chang suggested having a conversation with teachers to leave students on the bench at dismissal so that there was more organization during the dismissal.

- **Swim for Life**

Mrs. Chang reported that 2nd graders would engage in the 10 week program Swim for Life. One of the classes had already been registered and the other two were on the waiting list.

- **Open forum**

A question arose regarding participatory budget. Mrs. Chang responded that she would get back to us on the numbers. The budget would address staffing for early morning arrivals and the upgrades for the gym.

Ms. Samolis was asked about the after school grant for 5th graders. Ms. Samolis responded that letters would go out informing families. Discussion arose regarding children on the basketball and cheer teams may have conflicts with the after school arts grants.

Another question was brought up about the award assembly sign in. The suggestion was to have families pre register to facilitate sign in for entering the school. Mrs. Chang answered that the sign in log was DOE policy.

With this the meeting was adjourned.