



Manhattan School for Children School Leadership Team (SLT) January 7, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Claire Lowenstein	Principal
Mary Ann Schmidt	UFT Chapter Representative
Erin Moughon--Smith	Teacher
Danielle Monaghan	Paraprofessional
Andree Sanders	Parent/Co--PA President
Alison Holden	Parent/Co--PA President
Alyssa Cheng	Parent Representative (K--3)
Brigit Beyea	Parent Rep(all grades)
Manuela Zamora	Parent Rep (4-6)
Leslie Powell	Parent Rep(7-8)

Additional Participants:

- Karen Spraggs, 8th grade parent
- Ingrid Flinn, 3rd/6th grade parent
- Karen Oberlin Hadju, 6th grade parent
- Laura Sauret, 3rd/6th grade parent
- Samira Freeman, School Psychologist
- Tatiana Hoover, Business Manager

Principal's Report:

No news on budget and facilities
 CEP- should be published, has not to date. Claire will keep checking.
 Parent Coordinator- Maxine Witherspoon was offered job, and she accepted. She needs to stay at current school through their quality review, and will hopefully be starting by February
 Claire would like Quality Review put on next month's agenda

Fundraising:

Annual Appeal, main drive over \$143,000 to date
 Bdwy Loves MSC January 25
 Celebrate MSC March 28

Old Business:

Elevator:

Maybe a PSA campaign

Possible Sunday night blast- maybe w a video- let's start our week well,

People need to slow down!

Lice workshop- 1/15 3pm auditorium

Discipline Policy- looking for volunteer to write it up; Alison will work on getting something together.

IDC forum: How to talk about Diversity, mostly around racial and economic diversity.

How we can supplement what's already going on, and what isn't happening at all.

Imani Henry will come to IDC meeting to discuss next steps.

Maryann and Erin (drama) are meeting to create a diversity storytelling troupe to do outreach to neighborhood preschools;

How to get teachers of color in the school- make relationships w different universities.

Ongoing discussion,

IDC- outreach to Kindergarten. 1/23, preschool director's "tour"

New Business:

Family Snapshot and Quality Review, next month

Support for 8th grade exmissions:

How can we support families better- attendance- after how many late/absences are families notified?

Now-send an email, call, majority don't tell until next day

Teacher takes attendance, considered late if in after 8:30, if late go to main office and sign in in late book, get late pass. End of week, Tatiana scans attendance- first she looks at late book; if at Dr.- late, but excused. If you make corrections during that school year, it can be changed. If not notified until the next year, it cannot be changed.

7th grade blast- about attendance

Sometimes parents of older children may not know the kids are late

Look into other middle schools to see what they are doing

Teachers are not updating Ilearn as quickly as they should; sometimes it's too close to the end of the marking period and parents aren't aware there is a problem- and they can't help their children before the end of the marking period.

Discussion of Inclusion Program at MSC

Parent visitors presented synopsis of issues

Tatiana and Claire explain that discussion needs to be broad and should not be around individual students

Involved discussion took place around following issues: inclusion vs. general education; History of initial inclusion program at MSC; how all children can be supported, regardless of if they have IEP; whether all children are receiving a FAPE; better communication to parents, promotional criteria; creating positive learning environment for all children; etc.

Claire stated that she has met, and is available to meet, with parents to discuss their individual child's needs.

Next meeting: Wednesday, February 4th at 3:15pm in the Science Room.