



## School Leadership Team (SLT) Minutes

May 4, 2016

KavitaZ Singh 10/18/15 9:50 PM  
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<u>Name</u>	<u>Representation</u>
Claire Lowenstein	Principal
Mary Ann Schmidt	UFT Rep
Stephanie Douglas	Teacher
Meredith McAssey	Teacher
Suzanne Blank	Teacher
Lisa Giella-Putignano	Parent/Co-PA President
Susan Gargiulo	Parent Rep (4-6)
Kavita Singh Gilchrist	Parent Rep (K-3)
Maxine Witherspoon	Parent Coordinator / Observer

**Guest Observers:** Octavio Warnock, Parent; Leonora Loeb, Parent; Leslie Powell, Parent

**SLT Meeting began at 3:20pm in Room 519.**

### 1. Welcome – Chair

Reviewed and re-organized agenda. (Lisa G. had to leave early.)

### 2. Parent's Report

Upcoming events:

**May 9<sup>th</sup>** - meeting for new/incoming parents @ 6pm. Marisa & Alex, MSC parent reps will speak on Progressive Education. Erin has scheduled the musical involved students to attend. They will SING and also be there after the meeting.

We will pass out updated packet for parents about us, volunteering, etc.

**May 20<sup>th</sup>** - ARON publishing party. Teachers will be given book ahead of time to read and do a class around. It is also the date of the book fair – SPRING CLEAN BOOK swap.

**May 26<sup>th</sup>** - Science Fair. Greenhouse, presentations, food.

**June 21 (Tuesday) Yankees Game.** Secured 50 tickets which will be sold for \$20/ticket. Email goes out today.

### **3. New Business**

#### a. IDC Screening of “American Promise” – reflections.

We had 4-5 MSC teachers attend, was very empowering. Great to have staff, kids and families at our events. Continued with discussion on the film and a few of the speakers post-film, who shared their personal experiences as well as current experiences with their children. Started an important and difficult topic --- and discussions that are important to continue to ensure that all children at MSC feel included, regardless of race/ethnicity.

Kavita shared a related topic around efforts in District 3 to address overcrowding in some D3 public schools. At the same time, discussions are happening around the need to desegregate the public schools and create more equal access to schools for all families in D3 and all of NYC.

The DOE and CEC (Community Education Council) have held 2 town halls (held at PS145 and PS87) to discuss “Controlled Choice,” a strategy they were looking at that was used in the Cambridge, MA school district - and that is underway at a couple of NYC districts, namely D1. Essentially, the community decides a set of factors that are important to them (e.g. socioeconomic status, proximity to school) – and then all schools use the same factors for admission, which is managed centrally. Kavita is working to better understand the issues at play and what the DOE is actually doing -- and more information about controlled choice. She will gather and share information as she receives it.

#### b. CEP Review of Section 5E: Strong Family and Community Ties

We read through this section of the CEP and reviewed for any edits needed.

### **4. Principal’s Report**

May 17<sup>th</sup> – Selected to participate in TEAM UP with NYPD. Interactive event, students will participate in activities focused on teamwork and leadership, led by officers from local precinct.

### **5. Old Business**

- a. School Survey Results – Survey team will write up report/recommendations for next year.
- b. Writopia offer – Electives for upper grades. Have we decided?

- Need to find out if they were licensed. Susan to follow up on this and on the timeline of the scholastic writing awards.

- If they did do this through electives, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade electives are twice/week. Scheduling electives is challenging.

- Scholastic: writing deadline is mid-December. So would have to be first elective of the year.

c. Middle School Committee – discuss timing and outreach for committee.

Reached out to Suzanne (current parent). Looking for people who would take over/ move this forward. Susan is going to have coffee with her to discuss how to get a small committee together.

Feels like we should do this before the end of the year. Stephanie suggests that the group could do a needs analysis – what worked, what could be better.

PTA should do a call out to all parents of any grade to join this committee. Should have a couple Teacher reps.

→ Stephanie's class worked with two 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes to close out their poetry project. It was amazing. Good buzz with the kids but didn't get communicated back to parents. (Though Claire wrote about it in her newsletter.)

\*Claire - We have very few spots but we want to make sure that people attend who want to be here. We should talk to the other K-5 schools and encourage applying to our Middle School.

**Agenda setting for next SLT meeting:**

Come with thoughts of this year – what we accomplished and what goals we should have for next year.

The SLT meeting is before elections. Susan will email the SLT and see if we should move the meeting to June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm.