

SLT MINUTES  
Tuesday, October 30, 2018

Attendance: Elizabeth Garraway, Victoria Morey, Teresa Bazzi, Heidi Sauberg, Ronni Horowitz, Colleen Cruz, Roophy Roy, Kim Landman, Kass Minor, Maria Heredia

1. Monthly Meeting for 5<sup>th</sup> grade families: The next meeting will be held on November 1
2. Diversity Committee Report: We are always open for new members. Some of the sub-committees are the staff social committee (for monthly staff get-togethers), and the Kids With Abilities Awareness committee (Open to PS 118 students and parents). We also have students serving on the District 15 Equity Congress.
  - a. Teachers are embedding race awareness into their writing lessons and literature read-alouds.
  - b. AP Annie has been attending *Restorative Circles* meetings and has begun to meet with the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes to share this work.
  - c. Staff is having 5 PD's with Cornelius Minor this year to discuss how to do more diversity awareness lessons creatively.
  - d. The Diversity Committee is reviewing books to both add to our library and weed out books that are inherently biased.
  - e. An upcoming *Meet the Author* is scheduled with Irene Latham, author of "*Can I Touch Your Hair*"
  - f. Teachers are encouraging students to tell their stories (some are too personal to publish)
  - g. The next Diversity Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 8am.
3. Abilities Awareness Committee is working on getting therapy dogs come to school and be a calming presence for struggling readers. Kids can read to the dogs. Maria Heredia will meet with The Good Dog Foundation about the possibility of bringing this program to PS 118 during the Read-a-thon in January. Therapy dogs: The 2 foundations that provide dogs are READ- K-3 (library) and The good dog foundation (school). Some concerns are: some people are afraid, allergies, religious considerations. How can families opt out? Is this a school wide policy? Or SETSS/struggling readers only? Can it be an opt in program? Possible for readathon only?
4. Read-a-Thon: The kick-off for the Read-a-Thon is PS 118 Spirit Day-January 18<sup>th</sup>! On Friday, January 25<sup>th</sup> will be dress as a character day. Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> will be PJ Day and the close of the Read-a-Thon. Read-a-thon kick-off is on PS 118 Spirit Day on January 18<sup>th</sup>

5. Arts Night is tentatively scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup>. The PTA Arts Committee will meet to plan soon.
6. EYB Night is tentatively scheduled for some time in May. (To be discussed at the next staff meeting.) *Last year it was poorly attended.*
7. SLT E-mail Address: [sltparents@ps118pta.org](mailto:sltparents@ps118pta.org) All parent SLT members have a password and access to it. The SLT is working on getting an SLT locked box placed on the counter in the Main Office.
8. Allergies: There is a lunch table designated for students who have food allergies. Lunch staff has allergy list of kids' names with photos and what foods they are allergic to. For birthday celebrations, kids who have allergies are given an alternative treat (if the birthday kid brings in something they could be allergic to).
9. Lice Checks: The PTA is looking into hiring a lice-checker for each child in the school. If this goes forward, Opt-Out forms will be sent home.