

**SLT MINUTES**  
**SLT Minutes: Tuesday, January 22, 2019**

Attendance: Elizabeth Garraway, Victoria Morey, Teresa Bazzi, Heidi Sauberg, Ronni Horowitz, Kim Landman, Kass Minor, Maria Heredia, Annie Giovino, Kathy Park Price - (CEC Vice President)

**1. Diversity Committee Report:**

- Update on current initiatives:
  - o Building Community Rapport (*we're thinking about ways to gather such as having a weekly running group.*)
  - o Thinking about how to make Family Fridays more inclusive & include diversity activities within each class with parents and teachers. It's important to have a shared vision. (*Staff will meet to discuss this before anything is implemented.*)

**2. Garden Committee Update:** A discussion was held around composting with worms outside in the garden. The PTA could purchase see-through plexiglass bins. Ronni mentioned having a bin to donate. Students would be able to add their lunch scraps to the bins. The 5<sup>th</sup> grade Service Corps cannot work to maintain the bins because they are already scheduled. This can be worked into the sustainability initiative, perhaps in conjunction with the science curriculum, but we would need a point person. Maria offered to do research on how to get compost bins.

**3. New Initiatives:** A discussion was held around new initiatives. It's important that we have a plan for action steps so that we'll have stamina and perseverance to get things done. For every initiative, the administration gets many negative toned emails as many, many people voice their pros and cons. It becomes inhibiting to our work. There seems to be controversial issues regardless of what we do and the administrations time becomes usurped with this. At the next PTA meeting it would be productive to discuss these issues.

We want our work to be at the heart of what our children are learning and doing in school. All 5<sup>th</sup> graders must do community service to learn the process of making changes in the school. We want them to transfer the skills respectfully. We strive to find things meaningful that will support and promote the community.

**4. Abilities Awareness Update:** The Good Dog organization will visit on Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup> with dogs. A few students from each class will be out to read with a dog for a short time before returning to class. PTA & readathon committees will provide a donation to the good dog foundation. PTA will

send an email asking for donation from parents. Many emails were received with questions about why we are planning it the way we are.

5. **Lice Checks:** There will be a \$3.00 charge per student for lice checks. Many emails were received with questions and comment about how this was planned.
6. **Health Education for 5<sup>th</sup> grade:** Our Pre-Adolescent Curriculum starts on February 1<sup>st</sup> and will run for 4 consecutive Fridays. Mr. Weeks, Mr. Steinmuller, Ms. Simone and Ms. Arnold planned and will teach the curriculum which includes the topics of *puberty, body image and hygiene*. Girls and boys will be taught separately. However, children will go with the group they identify with. Annie will email 5<sup>th</sup> grade families about the language that will be used.
7. **Playground:** Upper grade teachers are constantly addressing things that happen on the playground between students. We are teaching students to advocate for themselves and what consent means.
8. **Change of SLT Meeting Dates:** The February and April meeting dates have been changed to Mondays, 2/25 & 4/29 with a start time of 4:15pm. The March meeting date will remain the same.
9. Kathy Park-Price:
  - a. PTAs who've done lice checks can be in touch with our PTA
  - b. Garden train can offer support re: composting bins
  - c. Community Education Council seats are up for reelection (9 out of 11 seats)
  - d. Citizen Squirrel, an initiative to help guides families who want to increase their community activism, is having inaugural meeting this week at JHS 51