

November SLT Minutes

Attendees: Annie Giovino, Victoria Morey, Teresa Bazzi, Meredith Hackett, Ronni Horowitz, Regina Rodgers, Chris Shott, Sivia Weintraub, Tara Hayward, Charlotta Koehler, Amanda Huttenlocher, Deirdre Curry.

- Committee Reports - PTA:
 - Next PTA meeting is Nov 18th 6:30pm
 - Looking for new ideas for community events since many of our traditional events won't be possible this year
 - PTA has approved dollars for supplies to support remote learning (end of 2019-2020 school year), in-school PPE supplies and document mirrors. Annie confirmed document mirrors have been ordered.
- New Business:
 - Request to utilize 7th Street for outdoor learning re-submitted (first two applications were not answered). Brad Lander's office re-reviewing applications.
 - Dates set for SLT meetings for balance of school year: Dec 8th, Jan 12th, Feb 9th, March 16th, April 13th, May 11th, June 8th/15th (TBD later in the year)
 - SLT email address communicated to new parent members.
 - Suggestion of approving SLT meeting minutes via email within 1 week of SLT meeting was received favorably. This way SLT minutes can be shared at PTA meeting in more timely manner.
 - Support for remote teachers:
 - PTA has approved dollars for supplies request
 - Time set aside on Wednesday's for Professional Development and sharing of best practices among remote teachers. No training from the DOE.
 - One teacher mentioned that physicality of being on computer for so many hours is challenging for both teacher and students. Apps have been useful and ability to send home books.
 - Teachers noted that they are still figuring out what support they need and that requests for support would vary from teacher to teacher.
 - Having additional teachers like Ms. Charity help with larger on-line groups was helpful particularly in lower grades.

- Discussed educating parents on the technical capabilities of Google Classroom. There is functionality where parents can sign up as “guardian” and see log-in information, if assignments have been turned in, etc.
- Suggested requesting parent volunteers to be “class tech support” to help other parents and to set up a tech seminar for parents to share best practices.
- Include request for “class tech support” volunteers and “tech tips” in PTA newsletter.
- Preliminary PS118 survey results (not info from DOE) on opting-in to blended from all remote showed 94% of families were remaining all remote. More families expressed interest in potentially opting in starting in January if that becomes an option again.
- With holidays approaching, teachers requested that parents spread the word of importance of following DOE quarantine guidelines if traveling out of state. At this time, DOE **has not** updated guidelines of 14-day quarantine even though Governor Cuomo has changed the state guidelines. This info to be communicated in PTA newsletter and sent from Teresa.
- Parents were asked to spread the word about submitting consent form for random Covid-testing. Testing occurs monthly unless the zip code gets designated a yellow zone and then it moves to weekly testing. Kindergarteners exempt from testing. Teresa estimates that only ~50% of families have submitted the consent form. Info to be included in next PTA newsletter.