

**Attendees:**

Tara Davidson- Principal Jessica Santana- Parent- absent Cindy King- Supervisory School Aide/Chairperson Donna Kaufman- UFT Chapter Leader/Treasurer	Jill Kirschenbaum- Teacher/Secretary Andrea Bruno-Teacher Sarah Liblich-Teacher Joanna Carlo- PTA President Belinda Vasquez- Parent Lina Romero- Parent Dawn Acevedo- Parent
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**UFT Reports:**

- Feb 12- Meeting at P.S. 159 starting at 4 PM. This meeting will focus on Governor Cuomo's policies. There will be state officials present to hear teacher concerns.

**DC 37 Report**

- There is an assembly this Friday.
- Issue of School Doors and Lateness at Arrival:
  - A decision was made to close doors at 8:10. Late passes will be given after this time.
- We are wondering how can we get parents to pay their lunch debt?
  - Maybe classroom teachers can remind parents.
  - We wonder how do other schools handle this problem?

**PTA Report**

- February 13: Valentine's day sale- Pre order and items available for purchase during lunch on Friday.
- February 24-26-: Bake Sale
- February 25- PTA meeting at 6PM (SLT elections will be held that night)
- February 29- Movie Night (Box Trolls)
- Winter Ball was a success this past Friday. PTA will look over the numbers from the event and get back to SLT with this information.

## Principal Report

- Reso A & Other Grant Opportunities and Award: Councilman Lancman gave \$121,000 for security cameras, however it wasn't enough money to cover the cost of the cameras. We can use this money for other classroom technology equipment, but are still getting more detailed information.
  - Teachers need to let Tara know about electronics we need for next year ASAP so we can determine RESO A requests for next year.
- Budget Update
  - Title 1 parent money left: \$600 (We want the money spend on families, so maybe we can do another Game Night)
  - During the May parent teacher time we can do giveaways with the money to encourage parents to attend the event.
  - Teachers were asked to submit a final wish list on things for this year or next year, and curriculum needed for this year.
  - Arts: Do teachers want outside people to come in for theatre or a residency to come in?
  - Arts: Dance for grades 4-5 after the test.
  - Ballroom dance was around \$6,000 per class, which is very expensive.
  - Green Team: Kids are looking into a Weather Bug station kit that gets installed in the school. ([weatherbugschools.com](http://weatherbugschools.com)) Kids can monitor and track this information as a weather station. Weather station equipment is \$8,000 and with a camera is \$16,000. There are grants available but they are minimal.
  - Other ideas were brought up for what we can spend the additional money on, including an electronic sign to display important school information.

## 2013-2014 Vision and Goals

- Review and revise CEP Goals Based on Feedback
- Progress Monitoring/CEP Updates
  - Goal 1: Teacher Leaders analyzed TC reading data and saw growth from October to December.
  - LLI: All kits needed for our school have been ordered and are being used.
  - RTI state training. The beginning of March will be our 2<sup>nd</sup> visit from the state.
  - Additional sub coverage will be given in March to support struggling students to prepare for the state tests.
  - Goal 2: Student council is going to hold an assembly to explain the expectations of Caught Being Kind on Thursday, Feb. 12th. Student Council will be teaching the difference between "ordinary" and "extraordinary" behaviors. There will

be different tasks for lower and upper grades to assess learning during the assembly. The assembly will be March 25<sup>th</sup> for Caught Being Kind.

- Goal 3: Teachers have made great progress this year in component 1e. Round 2 of observations are complete and some teachers have been observed in Round 3.
- Goal 4: There will be a Google Form for teachers in May or June to track goal 4. To improve communication, Tara has asked teacher's opinions during team meetings, parent opinions, meeting minutes posted and emailed, weekly parent emails, daily staff emails, and monthly calendars. People can upload PLC or vertical team minutes or power points onto Google so the staff has access to this material.
- Goal 5: Jackie created a list of all the wonderful improvements we have made at P.S. 154 based on 3 focus questions. Tina Dawn presented at First Friday on the difference between bullying and not, stress, drug abuse, violence, etc. She went over strategies for parents to talk to their kids about situations around them.
  - The SLT parents wanted to know if they can see how the kids do a shelter in. We discussed and decided we can ask Mr. Lopez to come to a later PTA meeting to explain to parents in depth. Tara will follow-up.

### **Schoolwide Programs and Policies**

- How can we get more ESL/SPED parents to attend events?
  - Superintendent's ESL Parent Committee at each school with representatives who speak different languages. We have 13 languages. The child also has to be an ESL child.
  - Jackie is starting ESL program for parents on Saturdays during Saturday Academy time.
- 21st century skills: Cursive writing- Teachers gathered feedback and found that some teachers said yes, and some had questions such as: will we be trained, when would we teach it, what would happen if we were doing this during an observation?
  - We made a decision that at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, after testing, teachers will teach cursive writing using technology and Foundations kit 3. Formal observations will not be conducted during this part of instruction.
- DOE Cell Phone Policy Revision- Teachers gathered feedback and found that teachers don't mind if kids have cell phones as long as they stay off inside the backpacks. In March pending the PEP vote, a letter will go out saying children are allowed to bring phones for use to and from school. Phones need to be off and in their book bag. If they need something, go to office and they can call from there. Parents can also reach their children by calling the main office and leaving a message.

- Title 1 Parent involvement activities: We can do a Game night again. If we can do curriculum night for the following year at the May parent time, we can do it using the title 1 activity. The talent show was brought up as another idea for a parent activity, but there is a lot of rehearsal time that goes into putting on the show.
- Parent Volunteers- This has been working on an informal basis, but parents have helped their own child at class. We are looking into the idea of training parent volunteers from the lunch aides and with a background check allowing them to support lunch periods.
- Achieving our Mission and Vision: Teachers would like access to more technology. This will be continued at the next meeting through a school walk through. Other considerations for feedback: departmentalization, clustering classes, and cluster assignments.

### **Fundraising**

- Folding tables and chairs: PTA will see how much money they have from bake sales etc to donate. PTA will get Tara an update ASAP.

### **Set March 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting Agenda**

- Achieving our Mission and Vision
- Classroom walk through to think about things for next year our classrooms need/have, goals, opportunities, and 21<sup>st</sup> century thinkers.

### **Snack Schedule**

- Oct 21- Sarah
- Nov 18- Jill/Andrea
- Dec 9- Jessica
- Jan 20- Donna
- Feb 10- Dawn
- March 17- Cindy
- April 28- Belinda
- May 19- Nina
- June 16- Joanna