

Leadership Minutes
March 4th, 2013

* Joanne Allotta opened the meeting.

1. School Safety Committee

*We discussed the protocol that is to take place in the event that both safety agents are absent. Agent Greene contacted the School Safety supervisor but he was not in attendance at today's meeting. He will make it a priority to contact Ms. Kaplinsky to further discuss.

2. Review Minutes from Last Meeting

*Doreen and Yvette Abreu approved the minutes.

3. Magnet School Grant Update

*Ms. Kaplinsky and Ms. Allotta advised us that the Magnet School Grant was submitted and it was sent to State needing no revisions. It will be announced if we received the grant by the end of the 2012-2013 school year.

4. Garden Update

*3/19/13 will be the groundbreaking ceremony for the Outdoor Kitchen.

*There will be a Garden Volunteer Hour opened to parents before school is dismissed. This will give parents who are available the opportunity to get involved in helping out in the garden.

*The garden will be open after school from 3pm-4pm beginning in April. The date will be announced.

*The garden staff is hoping to pilot a parent survey.

*Helene Selter suggested to Cecilia that construction vehicles should be cleared from the parking lot by 2pm-ish. People are being blocked and there is an abundance of noise, beeping, and traffic jams occurring at dismissal.

5. Anticipated Chancellor's Promotional Policy

*Ms. Allotta explained that this is the first year that the state tests will reflect the CCSS. This year's exam will be a baseline. The bottom tenth percentile across the city will be in summer school and retested.

6. Upcoming Evening PA Meeting

*This upcoming PA meeting will address parent concerns regarding the new state tests. One portion of the meeting will include a video from the DOE website with hard copies for parents to analyze the changes. Parents from grades 3, 4, and 5 are welcomed to this part of the meeting.

*Amy suggested presenting in the auditorium. At the last meeting, there were approximately 60 parents but more are expected considering it is addressing the upcoming state exams. The location has not yet been determined.

*Doreen advised us that the PA may issue a raffle as incentive for parents to stay.

* Amy advised us that it will be worked out where someone will be watching students/children for the duration of the meeting in the event that they bring children to the meeting.

7. CEP Modifications Submitted

*The CEP modifications have been submitted and accepted.

8. Common Core Aligned Curriculum for 2013-2014

*The CCSS was released back in 2010 but it is expected that the CCSS be fully implemented for the coming school year. The DOE has been evaluating materials provided for the teachers. The Chancellor is holding a meeting on 3/11/13 from 8:30-4pm for principals regarding analyzing materials/choices of aligned curriculums to share with their staff, ensuring that schools make informed decisions.

*3/7/13 Meeting about teacher tenure/Quality Review.

9. Preparing for the QR on April 11th, 2013

*We are looking to form a parent team that the superintendent will speak to during the QR. Dr. Esposito will be conducting mock interviews. We are not sure how many parents are expected to be on the team but of those parents we want to be sure that they are those who know a lot about the school. They will be asked questions such as,

*What if you have a complaint/suggestion?

*What do you think about leadership in the school?

*What is this school lacking?

*Is the work sent home rigorous?

10. Parent Communication

*Schools have received a message from the Chancellor advising us that parents would like more feedback. Many schools have a “robo-call” system. This is an automated system that notifies parents of upcoming events and closings. A company is willing to provide this kind of access for free for the 2013 school year. More information to follow.

11. Parent Surveys

*Helene Selter advised us that the survey is supposedly shorter by about 10 questions. She suggested that we have a “bragsheet,” or sheet of highlights, available for parents during parent teacher conferences and/or for an ongoing basis. This will ensure that parents are informed and aware of what’s going on in the school.

*A letter from Bay Academy went home to parents regarding the completion of the parent survey. Prizes are being offered to parents who complete the survey, and in turn take part in entering the school raffle. Prizes include a 29 inch flat screen TV, giftcards, etc.

*Ms. Kaplinsky will write a letter before open school regarding incentive for filling out the parent surveys. There will be raffle tickets given out in the main office upon receiving the completed survey. The names of donators/contributors will be listed in the letter home. The PA will set up light refreshments in room 111.

12. New Business

*Ms. Kaplinsky advised us that there is funding for Elmo's and other technology for classrooms that do not have. Teachers are being asked to create a wish list of supplies that they would like for their classrooms.

*Amy advised us of the Laser Light Show, which is to take place on 4/12/13. The theme is "Anti-Bullying." It begins at 5:30pm for PreK-2 and 6:30pm for older grades in the auditorium. The date may change to the 19th depending on availability.

*General PA meeting 3/7/13

*3/22/13 Baked Pretzels Sale

*5/2/13 Spring Graduation Picture day.

13. Next meeting date: 4/8/13

*Ms. Kaplinsky closed the meeting.