

SLT MEETING MINUTES

January 11, 2019

December minutes reviewed and approved.

Committee Updates

Grant Committee

- Ms. Hsu made contact with the Captain at Trader Joe's – discussed Healthy Lifestyles.
 - They want everyone to know that they offer healthy fresh food at a lower price.
 - TJ has an unwritten rule to only sponsor once a year.
 - They are open to doing more – being engrained in this neighborhood is important to them.
 - Potential partnership opportunities around Healthy Lifestyles, Boo Bash, and Spring Fair.
 - Amy Gaspari has his contact info.
- We should target TARGET for grants as they are getting ready to open in the neighborhood, and known for giving back to communities.
- Gil Lal and Amy Gaspari are working on additional grants – details to come.

CEP

- Mr. Shevell reviewed November levels. Approach was different this year, where children were pushed to live in a level for several weeks before determining the fall's independent reading level. Given that the first fall reading level was determined in October, it is hard to compare 2-3 months' growth a month later. However, the plus side to this approach is that we have a more accurate level for the child.
 - Evidence shows readers at levels 1 and 2 are being pushed. We are seeing more 2's move to performance level 3. However, some readers starting at levels 3 and 4 have dropped down a performance level.
 - We will have new reading levels entered by the end of January and once again look at the data.

Parent Outreach

- Our PTA website (www.ps116pta.com) is more user-friendly to make it easier to sign up and volunteer for events.
- Looking for suggestions to get more volunteers. The way to get volunteers is through the child – bring up at buddies or through teacher.
- Great to have guests at PTA meetings.
 - Possible guest speakers: after-school program, specialty teachers.
 - Possibly workshops – PTA could pay for it, possibly an anti-bullying program.
 - 12/19 Police officer meeting went well; however, turnout wasn't huge.
 - Officers are happy with the community.
 - Do we think they should be around more? They don't start their shift until 10am.
 - Maybe when it starts to get warm, we can ask to have them present at dismissal?
- Open House for prospective PK/K families went really well. Positive feedback that the event was amazing and impressive.

Diversity, Equity, and Representation

- Positive feedback on the book fair – so happy to see the great diversity of books. Diversity and representation is not just on staff minds, but parents, as well.
- Backpacks & Coats – a flyer is in the works to send home to families.

Specialty Newsletters

- Specialty teachers will be creating newsletters based on feedback from parents. A link will be shared via email to save paper – unless we do not have an email on file. It will be a standalone document by grade – sent separately from monthly teacher newsletters.
 - It will include questions you can ask children at home.
 - The aim is for it to be monthly – MONTHLY SPECIALS, like a diner menu.
- **Ms. Guenther is coordinating this effort. Thank you Ms. Guenther!!!**

Other Business

Holiday Drive raised almost \$24,000. We should put something out to the general community – *this is what you did!*

- We just received pricing on the Imagination Playground. Large mixed set runs around \$2,200.
- Looking at 2 spaces (room 208 and empty space in pre-k yard's alley), so we could potentially have an outdoor and indoor imagination playground space.
 - For an outdoor area, we would need look at rubber matting or AstroTurf. Checking with facilities manager as to what we could do.
- It looks like we will be able to fund buses for PEEC, and Philly trip, money for TA's and Chromebooks.

Spirit Week

- As the 116th Day of School falls on a Friday, we would love to hold Spirit Week that same week.
- PTA could hand out something to kids on Monday of the week (launch day) that is red/green, our school's colors.
- As Friday will be the 116th day of school, that would be "wear something 116" day; PTA could sell swag on that day and online.
- Activities/themes for Tuesday-Thursday have yet to be determined.
- Everyone is on board – Erica Silverstein volunteered to be teacher coordinator.