School Leadership Team Minutes
Thursday, December 15, 2016
4:30-6:30pm

Members Present:
Staff: Ms. Burg, Ms. Ocampo, and Mr. Schimenz
Parents: Ms. Carroscio, Ms. Goodluck, and Ms. Nicolovienis
Students: Jessica Leon Lopez, Andy Moran, and Maricarmen Ramirez

Observers Present:
None

Mr. Schimenz called the meeting to order at 4:40.

Copies of the November SLT meeting were distributed and members were given time to read them. There were no concerns raised and the minutes were approved by consensus.

Teacher Concerns

Teachers are interested in learning what students need to know for their major and what can help them find a job in the field they studied in school. Can a faculty meeting be devoted to that so all teachers will be better able to help the students? Ms. Burg said that while these discussions can and should be taking place in SLC meetings, it makes sense to have a faculty meeting about this so that teachers who are interested can plan lessons or lesson components around the students’ needs.

Ms. Ocampo received a letter from a teacher who was concerned about one or more coaches pushing teachers to change students’ grades so that they could establish eligibility to play on a PSAL team. The letter was vague and did not mention any specific coach or sport. MS. Burg said that she would meet with Mr. Maloney, the school’s athletic director, and the coaches. She said that Mr. Alikakos had addressed this at a faculty meeting last year by stating that “we do not change grades for sports.”

Another teacher concern was presented by Ms. Rejalaga. The 9th grade math teachers would like to turn integrated algebra into a two-year course and have the 10th graders take the Regents exam. They would also like to ability-group the classes to have level 1 and level 2 students together and level 3 and level 4 students together. Ms. Burg said this had been brought up in a program meeting, and discussed with Mr. Gorman, assistant principle of math and science. Ms. Burg said that while this is still being discussed, she sees two-year algebra as a step backwards.

Parent Concerns:

Ms. Burg was asked about the new lateness policy. She explained that we had days when roughly 40% of the students would come in late and that the administration decided that we had to reverse those increasing numbers. The policy is working. MS. Burg said that she will have statistics to report at our next SLT meeting. The next step, once we have reduced the numbers, is to identify the students who are consistently late, contact their parents, and develop strategies to increase their on-time attendance. The principal pointed out that many students come to school late after stopping to purchase breakfast.

Student Concerns:

Jessica said that her English class, period 6 in room 301, has been short two desks and that is an inconvenience for the students. Ms. Burg said she would see to it that there are enough desks for every student in the class.
It was reported that there is a missing door on one of the stalls in the girls’ room bathroom on the first floor. Can this be replaced? The bathroom is crowded and this only makes the delays worse.

**Old Business**
Hand soap is now available to the plumbing students who use the fourth floor bathroom in the new wing, Ms. Burg reported.

The next SLT meeting is Thursday, January 19, from 4:30-6:30pm.

The SLT broke for food and continued discussing the topics that came up during the meeting. Mr. Schimenz adjourned the meeting at 6:30pm.