

PS24 PA Meeting Minutes
January 17th, 2018

Meeting Called to Order: 7:35 – L. Moukas

- **Space discussion - Mr. Schwartz**
 - Mr. Schwartz scheduled to have upcoming meeting with politicians, DOE and others (no parents) – last week Jan/first week Feb
 - Suggestion: Co-op Board involvement to help with space issue
 - Mr. Schwartz ideal plan to consolidate to one cafeteria and make classrooms out of cold lunch room – 2 to 3 rooms, then fix new classrooms (downstairs by cold lunch room), push out other cafeteria to K yard. Moving K yard elsewhere.
 - Walk through with Mr. Schwartz or floor plan – limit to 20 people
 - Bring people in big numbers to Community Board meeting
 - Space will be addressed at next Coffee with the Principal or another time at a space committee meeting

- **Approval of Minutes**
 - Motion to approve – M. Montoya-Goldman
 - Approved – L. Chi

- **Principals Report – Mr. Schwartz**
- **HOT TOPIC – CLASSROOM PLACEMENT**
 - Classroom placement is done in collaboration with teachers
 - First deal with mandates – G&T, IEPs for ICT, ENL students in one gen ed class
 - From there they take remaining students and assign them as 1,2,3 or 4 – also deal with separating conflicts or behavior issues
 - Then separate 1s, 2s, 3s, and 4s in equal numbers
 - Look at the mix of children and make sensible moves, girls/boys, etc.
 - Most of the time the teachers do not know what teacher a child is getting for the following year so there is no bias
 - Often teachers are moved or leave or change roles anyway so classes are set up as numbers, not by names of teachers.
 - Have not looked at mix of kids in ICT in the past (should non mandated kids stay in ICT or not? This will be looked at now)
 - Teachers are assigned in teams. Trying to maintain consistency, but there will always be changes. Recruitment for next year's teachers are in process

- **PARENT SURVEY**
 - Parent Survey uploaded to website for confidential survey – 6 questions covering 6 areas we did not do well in.

- **PACC COMMITTEE**
 - Minutes on school website
 - Next meeting Jan 24th 8:15am
 - Notes will also be up to date on bulletin board by front door of school

- **Financials – D. Salanto**
 - Raffle winner - \$1,050
 - School Photos - \$5k
 - Sounding Board Advertisers revenue went up
 - Yearbook orders going home soon
 - Direct Appeal went up
 - Teachers getting budget
 - School enrichment/K programs/zoo trip. Third grade putting ideas together too.

- **Fundraising Meeting**
 - Bronx fire victims. 11 children from district 10. Go Fund Me \$1,100
 - Hardship committee? How do we handle our own hardships, kids in shelters or those who have lost parents, can't afford a graduation dress, etc. How do we help these families vs other community tragedies.
 - Decision to create a Go Fund Me – all Yes (30 in attendance)

- **SLT – M. Farber**
 - Mr. Schwartz did his own report – subjects include the third grade vacancy, PACC has met twice and Mr. Schwartz welcomes feedback, submitted a grant for security cameras for inside and outside of building – cameras on hold for now because we missed the window for ordering them
 - Mr. Schwartz encourages feedback, questions, suggestions so please email him about what you want and changes you are requesting – strength in numbers
 - Two CEP goals were discussed – 1) supportive environment (goal set to reduce ORSS infractions – not on track. Less aggressive ORSS infractions in play – recurring incidences from a handful of kids). SLT is going to change the way they are looking at the ORSS number 2) Collaborative teaching – growing number of parents concerned about a large number of teachers given an ineffective rating. Mr. Schwartz maintains fewer teachers are on improvement programs. Mr. Schwartz feels he has a strong style for classroom observation, however parents have complained that his observation style is intimidating (calling out students, same children repeatedly questioned on repeat visits, etc.)
 - Parent speaker - requested a Spanish program, presented creative solutions, sub-committee formation

- **General Concerns**
 - PAC –what is it? Does this override SLT and PA? It is divisive and disruptive. Why is there a separate body of people? It is now open to all.
 - Why don't parents know there are changes to programs – i.e.: no more Spanish, cluster changes are not communicated
 - Upcoming Events
 - Movie Night Jan 27th.
 - Valentines Sale
 - Auction Apr 14th
 - Family Dance Mar 10th
 - Parent Volunteer Program ready to launch – handbook, guidelines, etc. on website