

Young Diplomats Magnet Academy

An International Baccalaureate World School

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Mrs. Denise Desjardin

Principal



SLT Minutes January 22, 2020

Meeting called to order at 4:30

Attendance: Cutrone, Hossain, Wielingen, Ortega, Dennis, McKayle, Johnson, Desjardin, Ramudit, Ellis

Minutes from December read and approved.

Agenda for 01/21/2020:

- **Principal's Report:** School tours for pre-k will start January 27th. Part of the grant with FLI is having building wide events for parents, students and staff. Right before the break there was a cookie exchange in the gym which was well received. The consultant has come in to plan with 2nd and 4th grade with a focus on math. That is ongoing. There will be workshops with FLI and YDMA parents as well. Field Day will be held jointly. I-ready is a vital part of our instruction and in order to incentivize participation, rewards have been created based on passing lessons. Teachers are encouraged to give lots of class Dojo points to reward positive behavior. Mrs. D asked what types of joint workshops parents are interested in having. A survey was suggested as well as possible book titles for book club for YDMA. Building wide with FLI, we could do something related to mental wellness. It was suggested that this part of the principal's report be moved to later in the meeting in order to discuss in greater detail.
- **PTA Report:** The Snowflake gram was a success and PTA hopes to do a Valentine's fundraiser. A bake sale during and after school as well as a goody bag are being considered
- **School Safety Committee:** Two lock down and 4 fire drills left for the school year. One lock down has to be done during February. No further safety concerns were brought forward to Cutrone. Painting the door based on previous concerns of traffic flowing into one door on the second floor created unforeseen difficulties, from who pays for it, to only specific shades of paint are allowed. It is advised that we work on keeping door shut on our own.
- **Harlem Re-Imagine Schools Initiative – Sharmilee L. Ramudit:** The DOE partnered with two organizations to provide funding for 40 schools, 20 reimagined and 20 new. The organization is concerned with what can be done to help raise enrollment. They are trying to meld the Harlem

stakeholders into this work. What started as a conversation between two principals has turned into an idea of the Harlem Campus. A proposal was submitted and selected so the next step is to get a team to do empathy interviews. This Saturday in the Bronx from 9-4. Mrs. D volunteered to go. This is an ongoing project.

- Title 1 PAC update- Workshops and book clubs were discussed in principal's report
- School Wellness Council – Mr. Dennis: A school wellness committee is an action-oriented advisory group that focuses on the health and well-being of students, staff, and families in our school community. The School wellness committee will also:
 - Monitor and evaluate the implementation of district health and wellness policies and programs
 - Advise the school board or district on related school or community health issues
 - Organize health-promoting programs or events in the district or community.

We are also working on incorporating a track team after school for our upper grades. We currently need your help to be able to recruit at least 2 more parents anyone else is also welcomed to join the school wellness council. Lastly, at times we will need the support and collaboration of the SLT to make sure that we are all making everything possible for the health and well-being of our students and community. Upper grades will have a track team this spring with support from the National Olympic Committee of Italy. We are currently trying to line up sponsors. There will be more details after next week's meeting

- Discuss Incentive for Dress Down Friday: We need to work on getting school uniform participation increased as of late more students are coming to school already dressed down. Mrs. D discussed with staff the need to make sure students are being rewarded with Dojo points.
- Form Sub Committees
 - Art Gala: We are looking at other possible locations for this year. Last year's location was close, but expensive and small for our needs. The committee will do more research. Cocktails can only be sold by PTA (obviously not on school grounds). The National Black Theater is a place to consider (125th and 5th) Gala will be held June 17th.
 - Carnival: Letter will go out to parents for volunteers. The date is May 16th. Cutrone will inquire with Catholic Charities for volunteers as well as Harlem Trinity.
 - Reading Gala: RG will occur March 2nd. Reading Gala was detailed for new committee members. Mrs. D suggested that more local community members, politicians, etc. to help increase our school's exposure and line up more support. William Anthony Allen, Brian

Benjamin, Italian consulate, Nia (Block Association), Chancellor Carranza, Gail Brewer, local law enforcement from 28th Precinct, any other guests. We would like to get invitations out by end of January. Reading Gala committee meeting Thursday January 23rd.

- Flea Market: Right now tables are still open for rent and dates are being considered and it will be placed on next PTA meeting agenda
 - Ms. Wielingen wrote a grant for water bottles that was selected so that each student will get a metal water bottle.
- Remuneration Forms
- Next meeting: Tuesday, February 25, 2020
 - Review action plans for CEP and discuss progress towards goals
 - Follow up with subcommittees

Meeting adjourned at 6:00