

# 2022-2023 SLT Minutes

To access minutes from past meetings click [2020-21 SLT Minutes](#) and [2021-2022 SLT Minutes](#)

## **June 16, 2023**

### In attendance:

-Rebecca Fagin  
-Halee Hochman  
-Olivia Poor  
-Tristram Carver  
-Dionne Burnett  
-Nancy Henry  
-Blair Hirst  
-Dinah Herrity  
-Sarah Thorne  
-Mathew MacIntyre  
-Kim Brooks

- **Call to Order**
  - May's minutes were approved.
- Principal's Report
- **CEP (Comprehensive Education Plan) Goals**
  - 2022 NYC DOE survey results were used as a baseline for how PS 29 will meet its goals. The following priorities were discussed along with the proposed goal by PS29. Detailed information about the CEP goals for PS 29 can be found on the NYC Public Schools website.
  - Priority 1: All students learn to read well (ELA).
    - By June 2024, the percentage of ELL students scoring on or above grade level will increase from 63% to 70% as measured by the Acadience screener.
  - Priority 2: All students are physically and emotionally safe (Supportive Environment, Chronic Absenteeism, Attendance).
    - By June 2024, student behavior in the classroom will become increasingly conducive to learning, as evidenced by an increase of 4% from 86% to 90% of teachers responding favorably to questions under the indicator about “ Student behavior in the classroom is conducive to learning” on the 2024 NYC School Survey.
  - Priority 3: All students have a high-quality academic experience (Math, STEM, Grad Rate, Arts, Computer Science, Early Childhood Learning, Educational Technology, ELL Progress...).
    - By June 2024, the percentage for Black and Latinx students scoring on or above grade level will increase 8% from 52% to 60% as measured by the MAP Growth screener.
    - For instance, the math goal of improving solving word problems may specifically be a goal for BIPOC but will help all students.
  - Priority 4: All students graduate college and career ready and have a strong plan and pathway to economic security.

- This goal is new for elementary schools.
  - PS 29's goal will revolve around teaching students organizational skills needed to prepare students for the next level.
  - For instance, PS 29 held a presentation by Anna Warren Leavy on executive function.
  - The PS 29 writing curriculum will help with writing application essays for the MS, HS and college.
- **Closing up the Year**
    - Thank you to the following parent members for their 2-year service to SLT – Dionne Burnett, Clavel Lazarre, and Mathew Macintyre.
    - New members will be elected in the fall.
  - **Adjournment –Have a happy summer!**

## **May 18, 2023**

### In attendance

Halee Hochman  
 Olivia Poor  
 Tristram Carver  
 Dionne Burnett  
 Nancy Henry  
 Susannah Sperry  
 Blair Hirst  
 Dinah Herrity  
 Elisabeth Stephens  
 Clavel Lazarre

- **Call to Order**
  - April's minutes were approved.
- **Principal's Report**
  - The 5<sup>th</sup>-grade musical, Shrek, was held these past 2 nights. Lots of tickets were sold and it was a great turnout. PS 29 has not had a large musical production like this since 2019; it was good for kids and the community.
  - Kindergarten registration is currently happening. Pre-K offers are being sent out.
  - PS 29 is still waiting on the budget from the NYC education department.
  - Families for just under 100 students have not yet submitted forms stating if they are returning next year. Knowing the number of kids attending affects the class size and the number of classes per grade. It is a bit complicated to estimate the number of kids several months in advance, but the projection is that number has stabilized now post-pandemic.

- Family Mornings have been held for some classes and a few are yet to go. It has been very successful and great getting people back into the building more.
- The next upcoming event is the Talent Show for grades 3-5, which will be held June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- There is a new reading curriculum from the city administration. Each district will make the decision of which of the 3 programs will be used. Certain schools are in phase 1 to start this fall; PS 29 will be in phase 2. In the meantime, PS 29 will continue with Foundations and the reading and writing curriculum of Teachers College Reading Writing Project. Currently, there is little information about ways to opt out of the programs. PS 29 will investigate the criteria for opting out and decide whether they want to do that when the administration makes that information available. Professional development is a big piece that would need to be factored in, if there is a change in curriculum.
- The presentation by Carolyn Strom, an NYU Literacy Professor, on the science of reading and how children learn to read has been rescheduled from last week to tomorrow June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Yesterday, PS 29 had to close a classroom for the day due to lead paint being detected. The PS 29 building is 100 years old. In a recent Safety Meeting, it was brought up that the degree of issues in the building is beyond what the PS 29 administration can accurately and successfully navigate and answer concerns. The Deputy Director of School Facilities and Environmental ....., the Lead Compliance Team, our custodial staff, the bosses, and the PS 29 Administration offered to do a Zoom meeting with the families of the closed classroom tomorrow. PS 29 trying to escalate things as much as possible due to the severity of impending issues.
- The accessibility project is still in the design phase. There are a few changes from the last meeting. The garden will now be left alone and will not be a holding site for construction equipment. The holding site will now be in the back corner of the yard and the yard will be closed every day. It will be important to set up a Safety Committee with parent members, as a resource and support to help lessen any negative impacts of the project. Parents played a big role in doing this for the previous PS 29 project.
- A member of SLT staff gave an update on grants. PS 29 applies yearly for a Resolution A grant from the city council. PS 29 can usually count on getting that grant. But for the Brooklyn Borough President grant, PS 29 applies every year and only gets it every so often. This year they were lucky to get awarded a grant from the Borough President of \$350K for new technology for the building and staff. This grant will be used for acquiring flat panel interactive boards in each classroom, updating ones that do not work, new laptops and ipads for staff, new printers, and a reserve for the auditorium update project in case it can be approved.
- **CEP**
  - These are the school goals we have under our SLT. The administration will be working on this because there will be a review due in June. All schools now need to be “career and college ready.” This used to be just for middle and high schools but now elementary schools need this to be part of their CEP too.
- **Parent Engagement for Next Year**
  - PS 29 has a goal to increase parent involvement, now that the pandemic has decreased.
  - One idea presented was to create a survey with input from the community on how they feel about involvement – eg. zoom, in person, what time of day, the content of presentations, curriculum vs family interactions.

- Brainstorming ideas: Book Fair, increasing Family Mornings, Math games days, Harvest Week, author's day, cool career clusters, add some committees to run events.

- **SLT Remuneration Form**

- SLT members get a stipend for participation.

### **Agenda Items for June's Meeting**

- There will be 3 new spots in SLT for parent members this fall.
- SLT will now open to kindergarten members.

- **Adjournment**

### **April 19, 2023**

#### In attendance

Halee Hochman

Rebecca Fagin

Olivia Poor

Tristram Carver

Sara Thorne

Matt MacIntyre

Dionne Burnett

Susannah Sperry

Blair Hirst

Dinah Herrity

Elisabeth Stephens

Clavel Lazarre

- **Call to Order**

- March's Minutes were approved.

- **Principal's Report**

- First day of State Testing today went well. The 2<sup>nd</sup> day is tomorrow.
- Update on the Accessibility Project: This is a project that will turn the PS 29 building into an accessible building (includes addition of an elevator, bathroom updates, accessible seats in the auditorium, and new accessible access to the building). The design phase is expected to be approved shortly. There will be a meeting next Monday to get more of an idea of the schedule. There is a possibility of closure of the PS 29 garden in late fall but still waiting for plans. The principal is pushing the city for clarity on the schedule.

- K enrollment starts next week. PS 29 is looking at who will return next year; approximately 400 out of 750 families have responded to the “return to school” survey.
- There have been discussions of using the PS 29 roof in the past – eg. a “Green Roof,” for STEM, or recess activities. This was brought up in light of the Accessibility renovations.
- PS 29 investigated applying for a grant to redo the entire auditorium and bundling it with this current renovation project. It may not be feasible due to a marked increase in cost to add this on and to it significantly slowing down the project.
- The next topic was the current PS 29 building issues. The PS 29 building is over 100 years old.
  - There have been problems with bathrooms (kids not wanting to use bathrooms, lack of toilet paper, doors not closing or locking properly, flushometer on toilets not working).
  - One SLT member stated – “my son feels uncomfortable using the bathroom at the school due to the state of the toilets. He says sometimes there’s stuff inside the bathroom toilet because they don’t flush right, so he has trained himself to hold it all day until he gets home. Both my sons do the same.”
  - Other plumbing issues were brought up. There have been water leakage issues (eg. heaters cracking) and observed apparent focal fungal growth.
- **Continuation of Health, Safety, and School Facilities Conversation**
  - This past week, there was “Shelter In” due to a potentially threatening situation outside the recess yard. Much reflection on this experience has been done.
  - NYC will be implementing a system to have a buzzer outside the front door of schools to get in during the school day, outside of the start and end of the day. Safety Agent Officer Grant expects training will happen over the summer and the buzzer will be implemented next school year.
  - Carlos, the previous head custodian, went around at the beginning of the school year to check the door locking mechanisms. He also did a lot while here to temporarily repair many of the building issues while waiting for the City to do repairs. Unfortunately, he is no longer at PS 29.
  - Eddie, the new custodial engineer supervisor, started at the end of last school year. He shares this responsibility with two other community schools - BCS/ BNS located in another old building. Consequently, he is spread thin.
  - Dawn Pender is actively working on the building repair requests and work orders.
  - SLT is looking to start a committee to help support getting repairs done and improving the building. The Parent Coordinator will send out a survey to gauge parent interest in being part of this committee.
  - It was noted that there is lots of bureaucracy and paperwork associated with the work orders and repairs; it is difficult to replace items until they become significant problems.
- SLT Committee Updates (if any)
  - none
- Agenda Items for May's Meeting
  - May’s meeting will be in-person.
- Adjournment

**March 16, 2023**

In attendance

Halee Hochman  
Rebecca Fagin  
Olivia Poor  
Tristram Carver  
Sara Thorne  
Matt MacIntyre  
Dionne Burnett  
Nancy Henry  
Susannah Sperry

● **Call to Order**

- February's Minutes were approved.

● **Principal's Report**

- District 15 Superintendent Rafael Alvarez shadowed Principal Fagin today. It was a good visit, consisting of several meetings and visiting classrooms. There will be a follow-up visit in 1 week.
- PS 29 is very excited to be participating in a pilot program called, The Writing Revolution by Judith Hochman. There were meetings to discuss strategies and about getting examples for baseline. This is one of many initiatives happening.
- Next week is Neurodiversity week. PS 29 has been honoring this week since last year. This past week, the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade Neurodivergent Affinity Group helped contribute to slides and classroom shares for discussion across all classrooms.
- Health educator Ashleigh Petillo led a health talk last week for the whole community. It centered on social/emotional learning, consent, and wellness. Next week, she will give a talk tailored to 5<sup>th</sup>-grade families about PS 29's health education curriculum.
- Super Science Saturday is this Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>!
- DOE Accessibility Project update: They are still working on the design phase; if it is approved, it will likely be somewhere between June – August. Its highlights are accessible bathrooms, an elevator, and a new corridor. The goal is to not have major construction during the school year. Construction may impact the garden; transformation of this space may happen at some point, perhaps in the fall – for instance, altered access.

● **Health, Safety, and School Facilities**

- PS 29 is currently dealing with some plumbing issues.
- SLT had discussions about assessing the school for any water or mold concerns before construction starts and along with the construction plans.
- Possibly consider making a Health and Safety Subcommittee in SLT next fall, with parent members.

● **School Survey**

- The DOE School Survey is Due March 31<sup>st</sup>. PS 29 participation is currently at 49% for school staff and 91.3% for parents. Five classes reached 100% participation this year! An Ice Cream Party for the first 3 classrooms to reach 100% was announced!
- Recently PS 29 sent out a survey for returning parents or not. They received over 360 responses so far, mostly all returning

- **SLT Committee Updates**

- Service and Equity Committee is discussing how to expand now post covid.
- Lost & Found – a team of students has been set up to help organize and return items to students. A push is being done to have the community label items better to accommodate this. A plan to donate uncollected items is being set up on a more regular basis.
- SLT celebrated that in the past there has been a service project per grade. The committee is brainstorming ideas for each grade to continue to participate in service.
- In the past, the plan for 5<sup>th</sup> grade was to give back to the PS 29 community. Each child had something they help with – e.g. library helpers, pre-K helpers/ reading buddies (read to pre-K kids), and kindergarten reading buddies (5<sup>th</sup> grader listens to K kids reading). These buddy systems are often good for both parties involved. Since 5<sup>th</sup> graders would do this instead of their recess, there would be a list of all kids interested and they rotate.
- SLT discussed perhaps bringing back 5<sup>th</sup>-grade peer mediators, but they would need to figure out logistics.
- The parent coordinator will send a survey for teachers to ask for suggestions on how 5<sup>th</sup> graders can give back to PS 29/ be student helpers.

- **Agenda Items for April Meeting**

- An email will be sent out by the Chair to brainstorm for podcasts for the next meeting. SLT has used all the previous ideas already.

- **Adjournment**

## **February 16, 2023**

### In attendance

Halee Hochman  
 Rebecca Fagin  
 Olivia Poor  
 Tristram Carver  
 Sara Thorne  
 Matt MacIntyre  
 Dionne Burnett  
 Nancy Henry  
 Kim Brooks  
 Susannah Sperry  
 Blair Hirst

Dinah Herrity  
Elisabeth Stephens  
Clavel Lazarre

- **Call to Order**
  - January's minutes were approved
- **Principal's Report**
  - Professional Development: The Writing Revolution workshop is currently happening at PS 29, composed of 3 four-hour sessions. It is part of a toolkit of strategies for the writing curriculum. A Team will be created to help set up some strategies for writing, geared toward special education support, such as with the ICT classes and students with an IEP, in addition to the general population. One example is helping to develop strategies for elaborating, termed as “extending sentences.” PS 29 will embed this in the work they are already doing.
  - PS 29 is in the process of a huge technology audit. It is a 2-day process that is going smoothly. An email was recently sent out about the cell phone and smartwatch policy.
  - Grant work - Working on Brooklyn Borough President grant proposal and another grant that is based on Technology Goals. Working on revamp of the auditorium. Deadline is in the next few weeks. If accessibility project plans are approved, construction phase may start by the end of the year. Having a grant for the auditorium would be great to do but may be 2 separate projects.
  - Donation Drive for Turkey post Earthquake - Shout out to Olivia Poor, our Parent Coordinator, Nancy on the Service Committee, and a couple of other parents for putting this together so well. Project was put together in less than 1 week. Packaged 52 boxes and transported them to the Turkish Embassy. 30 parent volunteers. Some classes had children write some notes - class connection.
  - Anti-Bias Anti-Racist (ABAR) Workshop this morning - facilitated by Cara Turnbull- focused on LGBTQ, affinity groups, allyship circles, and proactive strategies. ABC's of Black History - book that PS 29 is currently using with some of the language and history in its discussions. The author of this book will be at Books Are Magic, a local bookstore this coming Sunday. PS 29 will inform the school community.
- **Discussion of *Sold a Story*” - a podcast series by Emily Hanford**
  - “*Sold a Story: How Teaching Kids to Read Went So Wrong*” is a podcast series about reading instruction in schools. It discusses literacy approaches of Marie Clay, Lucy Calkins, Fountas and Pinnel, and the Teachers College of Columbia University.
  - SLT discussed the last 3 episodes this meeting. Some members opined these episodes were more on the money aspect or who benefited from it.
  - Some points were discussed about PS 29. PS 29 has used Foundations for the past 10 years. PS 29 also has used the OG method via strategic training, interweaved in the curriculum, for the past 6-7 years. Regarding resources in the library - PS 29 has spent time reviewing their material to have good phonics and decodable books; it is currently looking for access to good online decodable books.
- **Agenda Items for March Meeting**
  - Feel free to email if anyone wants to add anything to the agenda.
- **Adjournment**



## January 19, 2023

### In attendance

Halee Hochman

Rebecca Fagin

Olivia Poor

Tristram Carver

Sara Thorne

Matt MacIntyre

Dionne Burnett

Nancy Henry

Kim Brooks

Susannah Sperry

Blair Hirst

Dinah Herrity

- **Call to Order**
  - December's minutes were approved
- **Principal's Report**
  - NYC DOE Accessibility Project – plans to make every public school in NYC accessible.
    - PS 29 is embarking on this process and is in the design phase, planning to complete it by May/June. The building being 100 yrs old has some challenges. Currently they are having meetings with the school construction authority and different groups (eg. UFT, PTA). They are starting small excavations to check some things in the design phase.
    - Construction phase will start soon after the design phase and will take 2-3 years.
    - Elevator is a big piece. It will be an external shaft on the Kane Street side of the building.
    - There will be 2 new accessible bathrooms, presumably 1 for kids and 1 for adults.
    - A new PA system will be installed and every clock will be set to the same time.
    - Each floor will have a holding space/room for those with mobility issues to get to in case of an emergency.
    - Some staging areas may take up some of our schoolyard but no full yard closure.
    - Some rooms may be made a bit smaller to allow for the elevator, but it will not cause any significant issues since some rooms can be moved around.
    - The main entrance will be moved to the Baltic side and will have a ramp; the front lobby area will be changed,
    - The auditorium will have some accessible seating; the stage will become accessible.
    - There were discussions about trying to renovate the entire auditorium at the same time; PS 29 will look into eligibility for a capital improvement grant. Next submission date is Feb 23rd.
  - Judith Hochman will provide professional development for some PS 29 teachers (lower grades and ICT). She developed The Writing Revolution and will instruct a program that is for writing and grammar, like Foundations or Orton Gillingham is for reading. This will provide PS 29 with more tools in their kit to help build a more robust literacy program. It will be 12 hours of PD during 3 weeks in February.
  - COVID protocols are changing. DOE informed principals of changes in messaging parents about covid and closed the Situation Room. DOE is still providing 4 test kits/ month per student. PS 29 will continue to share information about exposure in classrooms, provide instructional

quarantining protocols, and dispense test kits to families. Questioning how and when to step back was brought up. PS 29 will probably keep the status quo until the end of the year but reassess as they go along. The next step is thinking of what plans will be for the next school year.

- **Developing School-wide SLT Focus for Family Involvement**
  - Brainstorming session with a few members prior to meeting - What else can be done by SLT to add to the school beyond the meetings and attending the committees.
  - One member's idea was to set up a plan for all the leftover food after PS 29 events - ie. where to donate the food. It would involve having an action plan in advance of the events, providing resources and getting the parents involved.
  - Super Science Saturday is the next big event.
  - One Love Brooklyn is a prospective local organization.
  - PS 29 Garden harvest lots and that produce can be donated.
  - Community Fridge has an app to locate refrigerators for donation.
  - There is lots of need in our local community and our diverse district but we need to figure out how best to fill it.
  - PS 29 Rummage Sale – fulfills a need for many in many ways- donations, clothing sale, Electronics Recycling, raising funds for PS 29.
  
- **Discussion of *Sold a Story* (Episodes 1-3)**
  - This podcast series called “*Sold a Story: How Teaching Kids to Read Went So Wrong*” has 6 episodes. SLT discussed the first 3. These episodes discussed the way reading is being taught in many schools and the issues that have arisen.
  - It discusses a method called Reading Recovery. Some members brought up Teacher's College, picture power, and cueing.
  - PS 29 has been doing Foundations, a phonics based instruction, for 10 years. The school provides a balanced literacy program - both phonics and reading literature.
  
- **Agenda Items for February Meeting**
  - Principal's reports then discussion of *Sold a Story* 2nd group of episodes
  
- **Adjournment**

## **December 15, 2022**

### In attendance:

Halee Hochman

Rebecca Fagin

Olivia Poor

Elizabeth Stephens

Tristram Carver

Sara Thorne

Matt MacIntyre

Dionne Burnett

Nancy Henry

Kim Brooks

- **Call to Order**

- Approval of November Minutes
- Welcome Susannah Sperry, who will take the place of Ji Hyun Sun.

- **Principal's Report**

- Several recent successful in-person events at PS 29
- Two Open Houses were recently held -first in person tours since prior to the pandemic, 70- 80 attendees for each, some parent tour guides
- Ballroom Share for 4th grade today - first time PS 29 had whole grade of families together since pre-pandemic, adorable performance
- Kindergarten Families check-in was held
- Deputy superintendent visited in person and had good feedback.

- **Committee Updates - 4 Committees-**

- Education in Action - no recent meeting
- Learning Support: Coffee conversation meeting was held - meet and greet, discussed possible topics, information for families. PTA mtg tomorrow morning will have an Executive Function workshop.
- Service and Equity - see below
- Wellness Committee: Super Science Saturday - start conversation on the theme - think about vendors, theme; get ways of older kids to come (4th/ 5th grade) - usually more the younger kids; perhaps have a student led table (like in Eat Pie, possible Shark Tank idea - innovations, bridge designs - showcases; displayed science fair projects in the past; computer lab workshops may appeal to the kids

- **Discussion of *How to Raise Untamed Kids with Dr. Becky Kennedy (Season 1; E131)***

- SLT Chair highlighted 4 key areas covered in the podcast-
  1. Validating the experiences of children.
  2. Building resilience in children.
  3. Why consequences and punishments backfire.
  4. Sitting with children on the “benches” of their emotions.
  5. Building connections in any circumstance
- Some points discussed by members - Repair is key. Find a balance. Brought up similarities between this podcast and the last about Kate Dicamillo - eg. kids want to be seen and their voice matters, practicing survivability if things are not perfect. PS 29 employs methods to help with these ideas - eg. using a mood meter, helping kids be okay with being out of their comfort zone (eg. Ballroom Dance).

- **Continuation of Discussion Around Service Projects - Service and Equity Committee Discussion**

- Day of Service - PS 29 is the receiving site for District 15. There are several different microcosms within this community (eg. influx of migrants recently). Items collected will go back to people in the District 15 community; lists of people/ families and their needs were provided to PS 29 by the District.
- Continue discussions on how we do this committee in the best way possible to really fill a need

- Education - Want to do service but also get something out of it for our kids as a learning experience. Not just about the collection but who is receiving and benefiting and why they need it. Focus on teachable moments. PS 29 has service discussions brought into their social studies curriculum and woven within general class discussions.
- Sharing community service as part of our everyday world is a goal.
- Work on having action plans ready to respond.
- Suggested service activities to investigate more - Covenant House (getting list of kids with specific needs to fill), Conover House (learning about a shelter), Adopt- a- Family (may benefit from having more of a connection)

**- Agenda Items for January Meeting**

- Next Podcast suggestion - *Sold a Story*. It is a 6 episode miniseries about how reading is taught in school, each being about 35-40 min. Members agreed to do this podcast series and cover 3 episodes per meeting for the next 2 SLT meetings.

**- Adjournment**

**November 17, 2022**

In attendance:

- Halee Hochman
- Rebecca Fagin
- Blair Hirst
- Dinah Herrity
- Olivia Poor
- Elizabeth Stephens
- Ji Hyun Sun
- Tristram Carver
- Sara Thorne
- Matt MacIntyre
- Dionne Burnett
- Clavel Lazzarre
- Nancy Henry
- Kim Brooks

**- Call to Order**

The October Minutes were approved.

**-Principal's Report**

- Coffee and Conversation with Kindergarten Families was postponed from this week to next week. It will now take place on Tuesday, 11/21 at 8:45. The purpose is to check in with K families and talk through the curriculum.
- Open House Tours for prospective families will take place in December- we will have two in-person open house meetings
- Exciting as things open up more but still mindful of current health conditions.
- Budget discussion – still working out how post pandemic changes and budget cuts affect us.
- Mural – We were excited to have so much child participation and to be near completion (in process of the last installment). It will be so nice to have this in posterity in our schoolyard for years to come.
- Carlos, our head custodian for many years, has transferred to another school. Juan also transferred to BCS. It is sad to say goodbye and PS 29 is in flux but doing okay.
- Service - a new city-wide initiative will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Vision Statement Revision was discussed. The goal is to align who and where we want to be with how we want to be represented in a clear mission statement. The first paragraph contains our Values, the big ideas that drive us, and our Beliefs, what we feel is important. Our Approach is shared in the second paragraph. The Vision Statement will be shared on the PS 29 website. There was a consensus that the first paragraph met these goals and parameters. Overall, the second paragraph was good. However, there was feedback about whether or not to include all of the listed PS 29 activities, as it may be too restrictive/ may not resonate with all of the community/ may change in the future versus keeping it more broad. It was suggested that this is a living document that could be reworded in subsequent years. It was also suggested, we could use wording like “such as,” to not make it as restrictive.
- Next PTA meeting on Dec 15th at 8:45 am will have a presentation by Executive Functioning Coach Anna Levy-Warren. In the past, it has been popular. She is a big partner for our school and worked with our teachers at the beginning of school.

**-Discussion of *On Being w/ Krista Tippett Episode 1, 043: Kate DiCamillo - For the Eight-Year Old in You***

- Three main points of conversation were suggested by the Chair:  
How do you personally connect?  
How does this connect with how we are teaching our children?  
How does this relate to the philosophy of our school?
- Members shared how much her books have been a part of their children’s lives and part of the PS 29 curriculum, eg. *Because of Winn Dixie*, *Tiger Rising*. There were discussions about being honest with our kids and how to do it in a way to make the truth okay for them. Kids know and see a lot. And they want to be seen. One member brought up how well PS 29 does with providing kids and families with the socio-emotional language to help guide them.
- Podcast for next month: Members are to send in suggestions by Monday. SLT will send out an email to vote on proposed options next Monday.

**-Service Projects**

- Discussed bringing service projects back to the school. Service is deeply embedded into PS 29.
- The Service Committee and Diversity/IDEA Committee have now merged into one - the Service and Equity Committee. Nancy is the lead staff member.
- Projects that have been done this school year include:

3<sup>rd</sup> grade - Bloom again Brooklyn in conjunction with Cobble Hill Residence Center

1<sup>st</sup> grade – Food Drive with City Harvest

- The next project is Toys for Tots, which has happened at PS 29 for over 5 years.
- The city has set up a District Led Community Service Project called Action.

District 15 is trying to streamline all of the projects of various schools.

PS 29 has been chosen to be one of the 4 receiving schools in the district for the collection of items such as toys, toiletries, food, and clothes. It will start ASAP and run thru Dec 13<sup>th</sup> – on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The logistics by the District need to be worked out. Also, PS 29 has been asked to help identify families that may benefit from this. It will be simultaneous with our Toys for Tots collection.

- PS 29 is trying to figure out a meaningful way to engage families that may go beyond bringing items in and giving. We would also want a meaningful learning experience for the kids and to have it make sense for them. One suggestion is to do grade-specific service or community projects, such as 5<sup>th</sup> grade offering read-alouds. The Service committee will be looking to teachers for some suggestions. There were many amazing past activities like Project Cicero for kindergarten, and partnering with a school in Ghana. Projects were put on hold with the pandemic and PS 29 hopes to get back to that.
- One suggestion for service is thinking along the lines of Themes - for example, emigration. “Little Amal Walks NYC” was brought up.

**-Agenda Items for December Meeting- select next podcast and decide if we want to meet in person or over Zoom**

Podcast and location for the next meeting will be decided by email.

**-Adjournment**

October 20, 2022

In attendance:

Halee Hochman

Rebecca Fagin

Blair Hirst

Dinah Herrity

Olivia Poor

Nancy Henry

Ji Hyun Sun

Tristram Carver

Sara Thorne

Matt MacIntyre

- **Call to Order**
  - **September minutes were approved. SLT norms were reviewed.**
- **Principal Report**
  - **School Budget**



Kim Brooks  
Olivia Poor  
Nancy Henry  
Ji Hyun Sun  
Tristram Carver  
Sara Thorne  
Matt MacIntyre

- **Call to Order**
  - **Review and Approval of June Minutes**
    - **The minutes were approved.**
- **Welcome and Introductions**
  - **New members were introduced and welcomed to SLT.**
  - **Meeting Norms were shared and discussed**
    - **Accept Non-closure**
    - **Be present**
    - **Multiple voices are heard throughout the meeting**
    - **Encourage and appreciate different perspectives**
    - **One conversation at a time**
    - **Have an agenda and stick to it**
    - **Start and end on time**
    - **Ask for clarification**
    - **Respect the confidentiality of some SLT topics**
  - **No Changes to the Meeting Norms were made.**
  - **SLT elected new Co-Chair and Secretary**
    - **Matt MacIntyre was nominated and elected as Co-Chair with Halee Hochman**
    - **Dionne Burnett was nominated and elected as Secretary**
- **Principal's Report**
  - **Discussion of School wide goals and initiatives**
  - **Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP)**
    - **“Knowing Our Students Well” is the overarching umbrella this year**
    - **Refining our SEL (Social emotional learning) Tools**
    - **Anti-Bias/Anti-Racist (ABAR) focus**
    - **Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP) Goals for 22/23**
      - **ELA**
        - **By June, 2023, 50% of the first grade students reading at Levels 1 and 2 will increase to Levels 2 and 3, as measured by Running Records.**
      - **Math-**
        - **By June, 2023, 75% of 2nd grade students will demonstrate fluency with addition facts within 20; 35% of 2nd grade students will demonstrate fluency with subtraction facts within 20; and 75% of 5th grade students will demonstrate fluency with multiplication facts (up to 12 x 12)**



- **Restorative practices school-wide**
- **English Language Learner reading proficiency**
- **Incorporating more STEM/STEAM in the classrooms**
- **Supportive Environment Goal – Improvements in School Survey Results**
  - By June, 2023, practices related to understanding cultural identities of our students and families in order to increase personal attention and support will improve 5%, from 85 to 90, as measured by positive NYC School Survey responses, resulting in improved Collaborative & Trusting Relationships with families.
  - By June, 2023, practices related to Social-Emotional Support (i.e., Restorative Circles in lieu of traditional disciplinary approaches that are punitive) will improve 5%, from 88 to 93, as measured by positive NYC School Survey responses, resulting in improved Safety & Restorative Approaches to Behavior.
  
- **Thinking About How We Use Our Coaches to Support our Staff more individually**
  - **Each teacher doesn't necessarily need the same support (1<sup>st</sup> year teacher vs 20 year, as example)**
  
- **All members signed confirming we discussed the CEP**
  
- **SLT Sub-Committee Protocols and Expectations**
  - **Members are expected to be part of at least one sub-committee**
    - **IDEA**
    - **Wellness**
    - **Education Action Committee (EAC)**
    - **Learning Support**
    - **Service**
  
  - **Committee Fair – 9/29**
  - **Discussed the responsibilities of the committees and SLT representative on the committee.**
    - **Bringing work of committee to SLT meetings where necessary and appropriate.**
    - **Helping keep committee goals in line with school goals**
  
  - **District Goal for each school to have an Equity Team.**
  - **Could Service and Equity committees be combined as one committee? There is a lot of overlap.**
  - **Determined that IDEA and Service would combine to now be called Service and Equity**
- **Creation of Agenda for Next Meeting**
  - **Think About What Committees each member wants to be part of before the next meeting and let Halee know.**

- **Think of a new year-long focus for SLT: Topics like Healthy Relationships, Joy, SEL, etc. Think of something rooted in those topics for the next meeting to determine our goal for the year.**
- **Next Meeting – October 20<sup>th</sup> – in person**

- **Adjournment**