**SLT Meeting for Thursday, March 23, 2023:**

**Present:** Yi Law Chan, Max Chin, Amy Crisostomo, Elizabeth Derbes, Emma Kash, Minda Kauffman, Cindy Lin, Grace Lin, Kelvin Lo, Melissa Wong

**Absent:** Nancy Aglialoro

**Guests:** Li Chan, Lisa Chan, Mei Feng, Jenny Yu

**Meeting start: 4:30pm**

1. Review and approve minutes

Minutes approved.

1. Budget

· External Professional Development Opportunities

Teachers are wondering if there are outside PD opportunities and money available for them. At this point, there isn't any money for this year because everything needed to be allocated to something. At this point, Galaxy is closed until the beginning of April. Y.Chan is asking what kind of PD teachers are interested in for next year. M. Kauffman said teachers were wondering about PDs in general. An example given was for ENL. Y. Chan said that there are plans for ENL PDs in school. M. Kauffman asked if Title III money can be used for ENL PD. Y. Chan shared that there’s still funding for per session. That money can be used for facilitators to plan the PD and/or have a small study group.

M. Wong asked if there will PD offered for science teachers about the new state test that will begin next year. Y. Chan will look into this.

· Update on additional funding for newly enrolled students of migrant families

The art therapy program has extended services to some asylum seekers. Will be offering an after school club on Friday. Mary Grace (art therapy director) is open to working with teachers on how to work with asylum seeking students. Maybe this can be scheduled on Chancellor's Day

Y. Chan hasn’t received additional funding from Project Open Arms since our last SLT meeting. Our numbers are pretty stable; we haven’t had a large influx of students. We only get funding only for the new students. If they have been previously enrolled in a NYC public school, we do not get funding for them. We did get a grant from a district school because that school received a lot of funding for their new students. We were able to get additional Chromebooks for our students to use.

1. Enrollment - current and projection for 2023/2024

Current # of students is 525 (including PK), 483 (K-5).

Projected # for 2023-2024 is 475 K-5

Projected numbers for 2023-24 are similar to what they were this year, except for grades 3 and 4. Central projects 88 students in kindergarten, 9 more students in 3rd grade, and about 10 less in 4th grade, which mirrors our current 3rd grade. In total the projection is for about 16 fewer students in total across the school. M. Chin asked what these numbers are based on? Y. Chan said these numbers come from Central and we do not know how the exact numbers are generated.

M. Wong asked if the number of classes will remain the same as this year. Y. Chan is hoping that it will remain the same, but the tricky part is with 3rd and 4th grade.

M. Chin asked about the legislation that passed in the state legislature to decrease class sizes. Will our class sizes be based on those new numbers next year? Y. Chan said that there has been no direction on how to proceed with the new legislation.

M. Chin asked if students are still leaving at this point in the school year? Y. Chan says she cannot compare to previous years, but there have been some families who have moved away in recent months.

M. Chin asked what the key dates are for enrollment. If we want to prepare for next year’s recruitment, what dates should the PTA keep in mind? When will school tours begin next year? The PTA wants to produce a newsletter that can be given to parents letting them know what their donations are funding, and about after school activities the PTA is sponsoring. This could also be given to prospective parents. Y. Chan said tours in the 2022-23 school year were in December and January.

1. State Test Preparation

Parents are wondering how students are being prepped for the state tests. Are all teachers teaching the same thing/prepping the same way or does it depend on the teacher? Do these tests matter?

E.Kash shared that 4th grade teachers align the writing and math curriculum so that the units that are most aligned with the tests are taught just before the tests (for example fractions in math). Our curriculum does a good job of preparing students for the reading and writing portions of the test. E. Kash also shared that though the test doesn’t affect middle school applications, though students do need to pass exams throughout their academic career so there is some value in it. Y. Chan said that our objective for the year is to help students learn according to the grade standards to see if students are meeting the objectives for the grade. The test is aligned to these standards. Our goal is to teach to these standards and not to the test. However we do also offer teachers test prep materials that can be used to help students practice. Teachers use these materials with their students in varied ways. Teachers in each grade have chosen the test prep resources that they want to use with their students. The test has lower stakes than it previously did since the test scores no longer have any bearing on middle school admission. However the test does still give us information as to how well students have learned the grade-level standards.

M. Chin asked if parents want to do more to help their children prep, what can they do? Are there extra materials that parents can purchase or use? Y. Chan said it is important for families to stay connected to what the students are learning in their classroom. This is more important than prepping them for the test. If students are learning how to write essays and form arguments, for example, parents can support their children by helping them meet these learning goals in the classroom.

E.Kash said that we should focus on stamina and not cram the students. We should keep a balance. Too much can create more of a problem for their children. Also if parents are printing the sample tests from the state they may be repeating what teachers are doing in the classroom.

**Meeting adjourned: 5:30pm**

**Future Meeting Dates:** Apr 27, May 25, June 22

Link for next meeting:

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/96474918662?pwd=MjAveUNsU0czUTBxOTdvN3I0WkpLUT09&from=addon](https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fzoom.us%2Fj%2F96474918662%3Fpwd%3DMjAveUNsU0czUTBxOTdvN3I0WkpLUT09%26from%3Daddon&data=05%7C01%7CMWong10%40schools.nyc.gov%7C68c13880c49642dea5f508dab2d31fff%7C18492cb7ef45456185710c42e5f7ac07%7C0%7C0%7C638018917085434489%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=DBCglulDVyyrhyiLwXfFrkgzVQ7SFrbdeWgRNFTQMCk%3D&reserved=0)

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