

P.S. 101Q The School in the Gardens
SLT Minutes
Meeting Date: Tuesday, May 26, 2020
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

- 1) General Introduction.
 - a) According to the SLT By-Laws, parents who wish to ask questions of the SLT may submit their queries at least one week in advance.
 - b) Many questions were submitted on the topic of remote learning.
 - c) In anticipation of Principal Paniagua addressing these, many teachers and parents who ordinarily do not attend SLT meetings were present on the call.
 - i) The number of attendees on the call reached seventy-five.
 - d) It was noted that an emergency SLT meeting to discuss remote learning, attended by SLT members only, had taken place on May 8, 2020.
- 2) Principal's Update.
 - a) PS 101 received an award as a Recognition School (formerly called Rewards School) for high performance compared to the previous year's state tests.
 - b) The new grading policy is binary: Meets Standards or Needs Improvement.
 - c) The cluster teachers created a rubric to explain what a grade of 65% or "Meets Standards" means.
 - d) C.E.P training is coming up, and there will be a new C.E.P. template.
 - e) Summer school dates are July 6 – August 11.
 - i) Priority will be given to students held over; students who received "Needs Improvement" will be waitlisted.
 - f) PS 101 will add more online platforms for use over the summer.
 - g) Kindergarten graduation will be a pre-recorded video.
 - h) Fifth Grade graduation will be a combination of pre-recorded and live.
 - i) The S.L.T. By-Laws must be reviewed every two to three years; we will do this at the next meeting.
- 3) P.A. Update
 - a) The P.A. held its first virtual meeting last week, which fifty people attended.
 - b) Remote learning was a topic of discussion.
 - c) Several important district-wide virtual meetings are coming up, such as the Community Engagement Series on the 2021-22 Admissions Policy (especially for schools that use selective admissions or screens as part of their admissions process), and the District 28 Family Engagement Forum with Executive Superintendents Muniz-Sarduy and Dr. Spencer, on Thursday, May 28th, from 6pm to 8pm.
 - d) The P.A. Executive Board and parent S.L.T. members for 2020-'21 have been voted in.
 - e) Preparations are underway for next year's After-School Program.
 - f) Production of the yearbook continues.
 - g) Logistics for school supplies are being worked out.
- 4) Remote Learning.
 - a) Introductory remarks:
 - i) Elementary school kids do much better in an actual classroom.
 - ii) Remote learning is evolving as we go.
 - b) Parent Question: will there be more professional development ("PD") sessions?

- i) Principal answers: There has been PD since the first week after the school building closed. This has progressed in three cycles. In the first, many teachers had to learn the technology. In the second cycle, grade levels had to adapt it to specific curricula. We are now in the third cycle. There are workshops by teachers for teachers, such as on Jamboard, Google Classroom, Google Slides with voiceovers, and Zoom. Teachers are also training on Imagine Learning and Raz-Kids. Raz-Kids will be used to assess end-of-year reading levels. Teachers are in compliance with the requirements of the Department of Education.
 - c) Parent Question: Are there administrators on Google Classroom?
 - i) Principal answers: Yes, daily. This was put into place after the S.L.T. emergency meeting.
 - ii) Teacher added that it will take more time to really get this going. Different teachers advance at a different pace, based on comfort level. Teachers are “slowly but surely getting used to the technology.”
 - d) Question from S.L.T. parent: Is the United Federation of Teachers offering PD?
 - i) Teacher answers: The U.F.T. is teaching the same thing as PS 101. Also, the DoE is providing “at your own pace” training for teachers. Not all teachers do all PS 101 workshops, but everyone does Raz-Kids. Again, everything depends on a teacher’s comfort level. A teacher cannot be forced.
 - e) Parent Question: Is there continuity of technology usage across the school?
 - i) Principal answers: Every teacher had Google Classroom training. All teachers give student feedback. Two-thirds of teachers meet with children in small groups or call homes. There will be a disparity in continuity because teachers have different comfort levels.
 - f) Parent Question: If we are in remote learning in the fall, will there be a more thorough academic experience?
 - i) Principal answers: The third training cycle in June should provide that. Also requested that PS 101 not be compared to other schools.
 - ii) A parent questioned whether all teachers are giving feedback.
 - g) Parent Question: How do we know what is working and what is not working? Also, will there be additional structures in place for the fall?
 - i) Principal answers: Some teachers are more comfortable with technology and are remote learning leaders. There is one PD and one faculty conference per week. The latter is now considered PD.
 - ii) Teacher commented that PD can take time away from instruction.
 - h) Parent Question: Is Pearson aligned to standards?
 - i) Principal answers: Traditionally, we do well in science, scoring in the 90th percentile. The new science curriculum aligns with Next Gen standards. We will take care of any gaps.
 - i) Will there be a school-wide assessment both in June and September?
 - i) Principal answers: Teachers are doing the assessments now. This was explained in a video sent out.
- 5) C.E.P. Update
- a) Comments from different sources:
 - i) The C.E.P. can reflect goalposts for remote learning and not just use the same goals as last year.

- ii) Instead of having a goal on incident reports, since we might not even be in school for part of next year, perhaps there should be a goal on PDs around technology.
 - iii) Even if we are back in school in the fall, there may be a resurgence in the virus, so continued training is important.
 - iv) Another reason this should perhaps be a goal is because PS 101 might want to integrate more technology into the education in general, for example, integrating Google Classroom into all subjects going forward.
 - v) Should consider a social-emotional goal.
- b) Miscellaneous:
- i) Need to think about when/how parents can pick up students' belongings.
 - ii) Parents can assist in instruction in next year, working directly with kids without teacher supervision if they get fingerprinted.
 - (1) Even just a few parents could make a huge, positive difference.
 - (2) There can be a committee of parents and teachers to recruit parent assistants and structure the program.
- 6) Budget.
- a) Spending was stopped because of COVID.
 - b) The only approved budget item was Teachers College recordings: PDs for teachers and lessons for students.
- 7) Next meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2:00 – 4:00 P.M.