



**PS 88Q - The Seneca School**

**Principal**  
Robert Quintana

**Assistant Principals**  
Candice Lowe | Justine Lucas | Maria K. Palesty

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Together, We Make a Difference!

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# SLT AGENDA #6-3/26

- \*Call to order
- \*Review minutes
- \*Unity Fair-May 17<sup>th</sup>
- \*CEC Meeting tomorrow at 119, 4 staff being honored
- \*Reminder of Vacation Dates
- \*Review Goals of CEP
- \*Possible Cluster positions
- \*Budgetary Concerns for 2018-2019
- \*Next meeting 4/16



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SLT Meeting Minutes

March 15, 2018

Room 123

Meeting called to order at 2:40 p.m.

### Members Present:

Mr. Quintana, Principal; Mr. Gary Mintz, Member/Teacher/SLT Chairperson; Ms. Susan Stark, UFT/Member; Mr. Michael Adams, PTA President; Ms. Tracy Neidkowsky, Member/Parent; Ms. Cynthia Wilson, Member/DC37, Mrs. Cindy Adams, Member/Parent/SLT Secretary;; Ms. Mollie Lauffer, Member/Parent, Ms. Kristina Baljak, Member/Parent and Ms. Patricia Molina, Member/Teacher

- Congratulations were given to Ms. Stark, Mr. Mintz, Ms. Fogarty and Ms. Roman who were nominated and won Community Education Council District 24 awards. The awards will be given during their monthly meeting to be held on March 27, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at PS/IS 119, Glendale, New York.
- Congratulations were also given to Mr. Adams for his nomination and winning of UFT District 24 PTA President of the Year. The award will be given at the UFT District 24 Scholarship Dinner Dance to be held on April 24, 2018.
- February SLT minutes were approved.
- New By-Laws were distributed.
- Moment of silence was held for 17 seconds on March 14, 2018 and three poems about unity were read.
- Two parents e-mailed regarding the nationwide school walkout.
- Chancellor said a plan was needed by the Monday before the scheduled walkout. If a parent wanted their child to walkout, they had to sign them out of school for the duration of the walkout and bring them back into school.
- School Safety was discussed in great detail in light of the recent Parkland, Florida school shooting.
  - School in Ohio has bullet proof doors – teachers wear panic buttons;
  - Mr. Quintana had 2 telephone meetings with Ms. Chan to try to come up with ideas to make schools safer;
  - A need for cameras in or around school as brought up, but unfortunately doing so would be very time consuming and very expensive and probably not feasible;
  - Staff needs to wear identification at all times, especially since substitute teachers a lot of the time are not known;
  - It was suggested that a school aide be assigned to Ms. Arlesha to escort visitors to the office. This would have to be presented to their Union;

- Keep front door locked at all times and have a camera to see who wants to gain entry to the building;
- Cafeteria door gets propped open all the time which can give access to anyone from the outside. Unfortunately, legally any delivery people who come early in the morning are allowed to leave the door propped open. It was suggested someone be there watching at all times;
- Door by the cafeteria is unlocked at all times and is not alarmed;
- All classroom doors need to be able to be locked;
- Get a wedge or piece to put at the top of the door to keep the door closed;
- Ms. Stark stated that windows on the lower level have bars on them which prevent kids and staff from escaping if the need be. That is a building issue that needs to be discussed with Ms. Chan and possibly School Construction Authority;
- Ms. Molina brought up that the wooden doors on the fourth floor can easily be broken into;
- It was discussed that soft and hard lockdown drills are held throughout the year in an effort to keep the kids safe. Doors are to be locked, everyone must be quiet and be out of sight;
- Everyone seemed to be in agreement that teachers should not be armed. A former police officer or military veteran would be very welcome in the building;
- Ms. Arlesha needs a bulletproof vest;
- There is a need for a second security guard;
- A call and/or e-mail should be sent advising that a parent or other visitor is on their way to the office in an effort to prevent wandering around the building;
- There are concerns about the construction crews walking around the building after school;
- It was suggested that a license scanner be utilized so there is a record of everyone who enters the building;
- Our school does not have enough issues to warrant a lot of funding for all of the suggestions made, even though 109 students have been suspended so far this school year for bullying;
- Do not allow former students to visit the building.
- State Exams were discussed. Teachers have the option to use Rallye Test Prep. Chancellor made changes regarding testing. Students cannot be held back if they do not do well. Their portfolios are a big factor in whether they move up to the next grade.
- Ms. Molina stated that 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers do not do exclusive test prep like the younger grades. They use different strategies to get the students ready for the exam during the course of the year.
- ELA test to take place on April 11 and 12.
- Math test to take place on May 1 and 2.
- March vacation dates are March 30, 2018 through April 8, 2018.
- PTA supplied new microphones for the school.
- There is bidding for new walkie-talkies for each floor of the building.
- Goals for CEP were tabled.
- Clusters such as Safe and Caring need to be reviewed to see what is highly effective.
- Mr. Quintana will try to increase arts in the school as well as try to have 6 to 8 after school programs for next school year.

- Budgetary issues were discussed. Prior to March 1 Mr. Quintana was able to transfer money to where it was needed. After March 1 no money transfers can be made. All expenses need to be estimated.
- Next year's budget will be given in mid-June.
- As of October 2017 the budget was negative \$87,000.00. A loan was given by the Department of Education. About \$11,000.00 has been paid back to the DOE. The DOE will deduct any outstanding debt from the budget to satisfy their loan.
- On target to have 6 in-coming Kindergarten classes.
- No chance for a third pre-k class.
- School funding is based on enrollment.
- Enrollment for 2018-2019 school year is projected to be 875. It is now 929 including pre-k. Funding this year is for 892 students. No money allotted for pre-k.
- In the past there were approximately 105-144 over-the-counter students. Now only 20-40.
- Due to the teacher excessing done in October, Ms. Lucas and Ms. Chun redistributed classes within 3 days.
- May 8, 2018 is Teacher Appreciation Day breakfast funded by the PTA.
- Operation Agua raised \$625.00 for Puerto Rico.
- Permits were granted for the Forest Park Bandshell to hold the 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduation on Thursday, June 21, 2018. No tickets necessary. If rain, separate ceremonies will be held in the auditorium.
- Next SLT meeting to be held on March 26, 2018.
- 55 percent of teachers have to agree to calendar change from 5/22/18 to 5/17/18 for conferences.
- Make-Up meeting to be held April 16, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Adams

# **SLT MEETINGS**

**\*4/16**

**\*4/30**

**\*5/21**

**\*6/18**