



The 30th Avenue School (Q300)

Elementary Campus

28-37 29th Street, 4th Floor, Astoria, NY 11102

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Middle School Campus

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www.Q300.org

Vasilios Biniaris, Principal

**School Leadership Team Meeting
September 24, 2018
Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm

Members Present:

Bill Biniaris

Ali Lisberger

Elijah Cho

Monica Mohan

Suzan Goldstein

LaShawna Harris

Paula Marsi

Raj Jalall

Maria Panagiotakis

Anna Milonakis

Sonita Ramkishun

Julissa McHugh

Laura Marks

Li Wong (observer)

Members Not Present

None

Review and Approval of Minutes from 6/11/18

Motioned to approve - Ali

Second- Bill

All in favor to pass approval of minutes

Selection of Officers

Chairperson - Monica



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Co Secretaries- Ali and Maria

SLT Meetings

10/22

11/26

12/17

1/28

2/25

3/18

4/15

5/20

6/10

6/17 TBD

PTA Report

1. Upcoming events: There is a PTA meeting on 9/27/18. There will be a costume party on 10/28/18. Fundraisers are in the works, more information to come.
2. Elections: There are still open positions for the PTA.
3. Paula gave a quick presentation to the teachers today explaining how the PTA can help teachers and our school and making new members of the community aware of the PTA's role.

Principal's Report

1. Beginning of the Year Updates: With the exception of the bussing issues, it's been a great start to the school year. We had a great turnout at the staff summer professional development. All kids K-8 have technology. K-5 has music. It's the first year that we have a variety of instruments. Kids have seen those demonstrated and they will get to choose their instrument. 4th graders are learning guitar. All kids are having PE. This year we're adding movement for K&1. We have ultimate frisbee. Elijah is continuing debate. Laura is continuing Butterfly. MS students have advisory three times a week. Erin -- our MS art leave replacement is teaching photography. There will be a 7th grade overnight trip and



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8th grade is in the process of planning a trip. We are assigned as a CHAMPS school and have after school sports.

2. Professional Development (PD): Teachers are already attending outside PD's. Some teachers have signed up to attend classroom management PD'S. ICT partners are going to trainings together. On Nov. 6th the entire school is doing a team building event at Alley Pond Park -- thanks to the PTA for funding this event.

Q300 Website

1. Monica asked about the school website and wondered what happened to the site. Bill explained that the website consultants cannot make any more changes to the design of the website but he can add, remove or change content. When asked when this would happen, Bill stated that content could be updated as early as next week. Bill and Monica spoke about the different phases that we had planned last year and agreed to arrange a meeting to get the website up and running. Bill will coordinate this. Monica will resend the website action plan and share it with new members. Raj suggested have one point person in charge who could update the designer, rather than have Bill do everything. Bill agreed and stated that Jenny will be the school's point person going forward. There was a discussion about work that was already done but didn't make it to the designer. Bill will get the link again and share with the SLT members. Then they can all take a look and determine what should be on the site and make a decision moving forward.

Social Worker Position in ES

1. Bill met with Julissa and Paula on Friday. The freeze is still in place. Bill asked what SLT members thought as far as Edwin being used to facilitate social emotional activities. Paula asked is there was a sample schedule we could view to see what Edwin's schedule would look like. Bill shared a copy that was circulated. There were concerns about mandated services being met. Raj discussed planning for the worst case scenario such as getting intakes. He questioned whether we are going to give the children what they need, or create schedules based on compliance. Many agreed that Jessica Nunez -- the social worker at PS17 -- does not seem like a good long term solution. Raj suggested reaching out to excessed



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candidates and stated that the hiring freeze most likely won't be lifted until the excess staff is hired. Bill agreed to invite some ATRS to come in for interviews and would like to have a committee like we did in June. It was agreed that if Edwin takes on this position, we can't stop looking for a social worker. Raj also suggested a PD cycle on restorative circle training for all staff.

2. The question is where Edwin would work came up. Bill said that we created a space in Erika's old office for Jenny. We could easily set up a schedule for them to share that room. Bill is also willing to give up his own office for everyone to have a space. Paula brought up the issue of Edwin not having a space to make phone calls or his schedule not allowing for the time and commitment that this position needs. She's concerned that you can't schedule moments that arise in school and that Edwin's schedule won't allow for it. Bill brought up that although it's not the same, our APs can handle more urgent scenarios so there will always be someone there for the child. It was determined that we will move forward with Edwin working with kids but also move forward with gusto on interviewing excess social workers. We will revisit how Edwin is doing in 2-3 months. Raj suggested sharing resumes with the SLT and Bill agreed.

Handling IEPs/504's

1. Monica mentioned that a parent was surprised that during Back To School night, their child's teacher didn't know that a student had an IEP and asked who is handling IEPs at the ES. Anna M. is in charge of special education at both campuses and shared that all teachers have now signed 408's. It was noted that Hailey is going to take over handling special education while Anna is on leave. Other concerns about parents feeling actively discouraged from having their students evaluated were discussed. There seems to be a message that if your child is in G&T they will not or should not receive services. Bill recognizes the huge importance of special education and feels that we created really good structures and have systems in place that carefully and smartly help kids take it to the next level. It was questioned whether parents are aware of their rights. They should know they can write a letter and get started with the RTI process. One of our first parent workshops will be on Special Education. It was suggested that there



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should be a section on our website with information for special education and 2E students.

Creation of Teams to Work on CEP

1. We had a google doc last year that reflected the work we did. Monica was discouraged to see that the work her group did last year didn't make it onto the CEP. Bill explained that he distilled what he thought was the essence of the narrative and placed it in that section. Raj suggested we revisit both documents to make sure it's in a place that both parties are comfortable with. He also added that there's no definitive structure that a CEP should be.
2. The SLT would like to see the entire CEP, read it and think about the goals. We have about 6 weeks before they're due.

UFT Report

1. Ali had her first UFT meeting today at the ES. She will visit the MS tomorrow to speak with teachers and help new teachers acclimate.

Remuneration Logs

Logs not present. Will update at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30