



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 Meeting

Elementary School Campus

April 3, 2017

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 5:30 pm

Members Present

Bill Biniaris

Maria Hantzopoulos

Ali Lisberger

Olena Kebalo

Jason Booher

Pooja O'Hanlon

Alex Lunz

Mara Cusker Gonzalez

Kristina Jelinek (guest)

Jill Kaufman

Minnie Zen

Members Not Present

Elizabeth Yarmy

Kalliopi Hatziathanasiou

Review and Approval of Minutes from 2/6/17

Motion to approve- Mara

Second- Bill

All in favor to pass approval of minutes with two edits



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Principal's Report

- Q300 was receiving a Respect for All award and given 4 seats to the award ceremony.
- ELA tests have been completed. Test prep for the math test continues at the ES. The testing dates for the NY State Math test are May 2-4.
- The Algebra 1 regents is on Tuesday, June 13th @ 1:15. The 8th graders will take that exam.
- Kristina talked about how some MS students participated in the Model UN on Friday and Saturday. Q300 scholars met students from around the world. Around 1800 students participated in total.
- The school is currently working on a date for a MS dance. It will be student generated and held in early May -- possibly in conjunction with the May PTA meeting. It will take place in the gymnasium. The students will be leading the planning and organizing including coming up with a theme. More information will be coming soon.
- Bill met with Space Planning recently. The plan for next year is to expand the MS to take over rooms 511 and 510. The following year Q300 will receive a few additional classrooms. Olena asked what those rooms are currently being used for. Bill and Kristina mentioned speech and art.
- At the ES, the plan is changing because PS17 enrollment has been growing. While this does not take away from space originally intended for Q300, it doesn't offer the opportunity to ask for additional space in the building as the school develops. Space Planning will share details with Bill in May. Bill will also invite his contact from space planning to the next SLT meeting. This also led to a discussion whether it might be better to go back to one-teacher teaching all subjects especially third grade onward for space and other reasons.
- Bill also brought up scheduling of lunch for next year. Rebecca Heyward (Principal of PS17) and Bill had a discussion about possibly alternating early lunch time on a yearly basis. Therefore, Q300 may have an early lunch period for the upcoming school year. Another option would be having a joint lunch with PS17. SLT members agreed that it would be preferred to do a joint lunch but due to numbers, this would have to be further evaluated. Maria asked if a joint lunch would open up both locations for recess. Bill said yes.
- Tonianne is coordinating field day on June 16 at Astoria Park in the middle of the track.



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PTA/Parent Report

- Participatory budgeting- Q300 had two items on the ballot: a research library and central air for the cafeteria.
- PTA's big auction/spring benefit is coming up on May 7th. Teachers and their families are invited to attend. There is usually lots of food and awesome prizes to bid on.
- The PTA has sent out enrichment and budget surveys to parents and teachers. It helps PTA figure out the enrichment plans for next year.
- The Q300 cookbook is coming up. Stay tuned for cookbook sales.
- An Arts Fundraiser is being organized. More information to come.
- March Madness direct appeal is finished. The participation rate was about 57% and PTA raised almost \$175,000.
 - Jason asked teachers if it's helpful to have TA's in every class. Alex answered that he finds it very helpful and mentioned that some other teacher(s) also think so. Maria echoed that she had also received positive feedback from teachers about it. Alex asked if there was a job description for TAs and Maria said there is one that she would share.
- Movie night with PS17 was successful.
- PTA elections will be coming up in May -- both for SLT and board positions
- Maria mentioned that she had been contacted by a parent who was still concerned about the lead in the water. Bill and other SLT members acknowledged that this was a citywide issue and the DOE was already having to answer to the media--WNYC was doing a special on this.
- A parent at Q300 had started a chess team for the school.
- Another parent, a third grade student's mom, had donated a dance residency for the second grade which was currently in progress.

CEP Goals 2017-2018

- All groups worked on their CEP goals, the plan is to get these to Bill and Kristina for finalization in June.
- The Collaborative Teaching/Learning group is working on a goal to ensure 100% of teachers get a minimum of one hour per week to collaborate with grade level partners. They will create protocols and a contingency plan.



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- Other working groups also presented their draft goals including the team for Rigorous Instruction. This led to some discussion about looking at opportunities through the lens of the school's core values and the benefits as well as pitfalls of accelerated learning.
- The working groups will pick up and finalize at the May SLT meeting, which will be the second to last meeting of the year.

Remuneration logs were not completed due to time.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:30 pm