

## SLT Minutes

February 25, 2010

- |                                      |                         |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| ✓ R. Asher, Principal                | ✓ D. Baldwin, UFT Chair | ✓ J. Hertzberg, PTA Co-President |
| ✓ T. Evangelist, AP Science          | ✓ R. Lehrman, UFT       | ✓ T. Law, PTA                    |
| ✗ Ms. Mayham, BTAF                   | ✓ L. Parizman, UFT      | ✗ L. Morano, PTA                 |
| ✗ M. Mandery, BTAF                   | ✓ A. Ahmed, Student     | ✗ M. Tang, PTA                   |
| ✓ S. Chan, Parent Coordinator, Guest | ✓ U. Kadziolka, Student | ✓ D. Gold, PTA                   |

1. Call to order: 4:35pm.
2. Approve minutes of previous meeting: Take note that at the last January meeting the facilities subcommittee report was delivered by Ms. Parizman and not Ms. Pook. Move was made to approve and adopt the change.
3. Update on issues raised at last SLT
  - a. Building cleaning issues: Guest: Ernie Tricomi, Plant Manager for the Division of School Facilities. The scheduled guest was not able to attend the meeting. A blank rating form for custodial engineers was reviewed. The committee reviewed the categories in which a custodian is rated. There needs to be an average score of 3.0 for a custodian to be rated unsatisfactory. The custodian has a method for providing a paper trail in order to dismiss an employee that he needs to remove. Many staff members were angry over the removal of personal items and student work from the hallways near the end of the 2008-2009 school year. After four years the custodian has been able to achieve hot water for the kitchen without having to heat the entire school. We agree not to meet with the plant manager at the next SLT meeting.
  - b. School Library: As reported by Ms. Hertzberg, there are three different work projects for the library right now. The Facilities committee is considering one proposal for reconfiguring the Library's layout. There is a parent on the Title I subcommittee who can offer their architecture services. Others from the Technology Committee want to be involved in the library. Finally, there is an alumnus who is a library architect who wants to get involved as well. These are positives that are in motion. The SLT would like to receive a consolidated report of all committee efforts from the Facilities Committee regarding what each committee is doing and what each committee thinks needs to be done. Referring to last month's meeting, it was clarified that the school has money to buy books and materials for the library. However, it is not necessarily the librarians who get to choose how it is spent. These purchases must be housed in the library. The purchases must be done sometime before April. Ms. Zoughlami is taking titles from the AP's and staff as to the need for the titles to be purchased. We have to ask a librarian to be active in the Technology Committee. We need a plan as to address what the needs of the library are. There is a list of what needs to be put in place as to bring the library up to date. However, we need a comprehensive plan of procedure and not just a "laundry list" of what the library should look like.
  - c. Recycling program: We plan to meet with the head dietician to start recycling bottles, cans, and milk cartons in the cafeteria. The purchasing of clear bags needs to be done via Mr. Asher or Mr. Fanning.
  - d. Physical Education credit for participation on team at school, independent of school: The committee is ready to meet on March 2, 2010. The students may not use this option two consecutive semesters.

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Physical education must be at least one semester a year. This is not primarily to save money for the school but, to save the athletes' time.

4. Subcommittee Reports:
  - a. Foreign language: A. Ahmed – no progress made in this area.
  - b. CEP Goal #1 – Curriculum: R. Lehrman – Having a student selective day where seniors can review electives for their senior year is a good idea. We have a number of problems with seniors and electives. Many of them don't want to work...is that because of our electives that they take? Yes, we have a heavy load of work for them. However, with even lightening up in some classes, the seniors still do not meet up to standard. This year the seniors have been very unappreciative for the above and beyond work that we do for them.
  - c. CEP Goal #2 – Performance Expectations: A. Ahmed – The draft of the teacher handbook was provided for primary review. This is a working document for one and a half years now. Yes, there are edits that need to be made. For the parent handbook, Mr. Williams will be meeting with a parent from each grade level and students as to begin review on that production. Referring to other parent handbooks from other schools might be a good start.
  - d. CEP Goal #3 – Differentiated Instruction: R. Asher – The PST has been allotted money under Title I. Brienza educational materials and staff developers are making an impact. AP's have been observing it in the classroom.
  - e. CEP Goal #4 – Communication: L. Morano – not present.
  - f. CEP Goal #5 – College Credit Accumulation: R. Asher – We are in a partnership with St. John's University. It has been piloted in Chemistry and Biology. The legal program in Law and Society major is also being piloted in this program. We plan to have this up and running in September 2010 so that all adjuncts are approved. There is a gift of 3 credits with the university for each adjunct.
  - g. Title 1 – parent subcommittee: D. Gold – the committee feels that Brienza program is a "homerun". There are new items coming into the student planners and these will be reflected at freshman orientation. Freshman orientation will be run at the end of August based upon the recommendation of the PST.
  - h. Facilities subcommittee: L. Parizman – The last meeting reported that students like the way the express elevators are working. The locker rooms still need work and repair. We might need to pull lockers from the classrooms. There is money set aside for new lockers via the alumni foundation. There are many lockers left over in the guidance suites that can be pulled as kids cannot use them up there anyway.
5. CEP discussion: sign final submission – The last modifications have been made.
6. Budget update: There was supposed to be a cut of 1% by this point. This cut has not been taken yet. Hopefully, we can roll this over into the fall budget. Some of the money will be used to hire a third computer technician which is desperately needed. The technicians will be called to tickets sensibly. We might get a cut of 4-9% next year.

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7. Report Card – School Survey: There are proposed changes so that no more than 25% of the schools can get A's. Will we be in that top 25%? Parent surveys are being mailed home. Teacher surveys are going to be done on line. The student surveys need to be done in a class. The parent emails have been helpful in informing parents.
8. Principal's report on various school-wide issues:
  - a. C-30 committee update: The C-30 for the position is on March 16, 2010 @ 4pm. There are 6 candidates, down from 75.
  - b. Open house update: We had a very good turnout. There seemed to be a number in shifts in the demographics of those students who are interested. The auditorium piece was shorter and there was more time for self-guided tours. The arts were more prevalent at this open house.
9. New Business introduced by team members:
  - a. Bring back college prep, an alternative for not having a major. There would be additional courses for them coupled with electives.
  - b. The school support organization for us will be changing. We will soon be in the same network with other specialized high schools. This will allow for us to learn and share with schools similar to us.
10. There is a feeling as not to allow outdoor lunch. However, there is a set of guidelines created as to suggest that there might be a select few who should be eligible. Can the neighborhood stores support the additional students? Many parents are for the outdoor lunch. Now there are fewer teachers outside going to lunch. The students will not run into as many teachers outdoors. The students need to meet the criteria from the school as to be eligible to go outside. The SLT needs more information, so request that the head dean and the Senior Class President be invited to the next SLT meeting to help us in this area, by presenting their current views and responding to SLT questions.
11. The new teachers' cafeteria has been a success so far. The morale with the students has been better and more students have been at more athletic events.
12. Meeting adjourned at 6:27pm.