

# SLT NOVEMBER 2020 MEETING MINUTES

## SLT MEETING MINUTES

Meeting date: November 18, 2020

### **In attendance**

- |                           |                     |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Emel Topbas-Mejia      | 7. Karima Khawja    |
| 2. Dimitra Daskaris       | 8. Christina Harvey |
| 3. Jen Bennion            | 9. Chris Jennings   |
| 4. Leanne Gonzalez-Singer | 10. Viki Manolas    |
| 5. Einat Lev              | 11. Conor Doyle     |
| 6. Susan Hobson           | 12. Katie O'Connor  |

### **I. Review and approval of minutes, with discussion of minutes procedures**

Discussion of minutes from October meeting including suggestions for edits. Motion passed to circulate minutes internally as soon as possible after the monthly meeting but that we will continue to approve the minutes at the next month's meeting. Will coordinate with PTO and admin to post final approved minutes on PTO and school web sites.

### **II. Budget**

Nov 13 was extended deadline for active enrollment. Usually it's Oct 31. We have decrease of 28 students for school year. It was asked if there will be a mid-year register in December? TBD. Still actively recruiting for this year and next year. Reviewing budget to see how register decrease will impact our budget and what money we might need to return to DOE. Some grades are at capacity. Early childhood and elementary grades have space available.

### **III. CEP Action Plan Updates**

We can all share and review the CEP action plan on iPortal. Emel will send invitations to new SLT members. Proposed a new subcommittee to review action plan, make specific recommendations, and work with teachers on implementing goals. Volunteers for CEP subcommittee: Jen Bennion and Karima Khawja will join Emel Topbas-Mejia and Chris Jennings who were on the CEP subcommittee last year.

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### **IV. Review of By-Laws**

Discussed updating SLT bylaws. Proposed addition on remote procedures and force majeure. Volunteers for subcommittee to revise bylaws: Emel Topbas-Mejia, Leanne Gonzalez-Singer, Katie O'Connor, and Einat Lev.

### **V. Blended Learning Update (presentation by Ms. Daskaris)**

All teachers are fulfilling all modalities: in person, fully remote, and blended.

Hard to sustain with current schedule because of inadequate staffing, especially with large cohort of fully remote kids in IS.

In proposed new model, entire grades would come in on specific days. Eg. 6th grade would come in on Tues/Thurs, 7th on Weds/Fri.

Monday would be fully remote for all students to avoid any gaps in pacing of curriculum.

All students would be getting math and literacy everyday and science, social studies, art, PE, Spanish, etc. on the usual number of days

All live teaching. This schedule allows for a teacher to teach all classes live, though they will not stream simultaneously to live and remote groups

Combining cohorts means more classes to accommodate more kids.

5th grade will be fully remote on Mondays but stick with A/B and follow same schedule as previously.

6th grade will now be three groups/classes to accommodate class sizes.

7th grade will still be two groups - large number of fully remote

8th grade will be three groups

The new IS schedule works whether fully remote or blended - will allow us to transition if/when the city goes fully remote.

No changes to ES model.

Question was raised about how ES is doing on live instruction on at-home days? Still short on staff.

More live/blended students in ES than IS. They have made a reequest for additional staff but so far they only have been able to hire three subs. Also, additional permanent staff have asked for remote accommodation.

Motion to approve the new IS schedule is passed.

Would go into effect as early as Nov 30 when new families who opted into blended learning start.

43 students have opted into blended learning.

Ms. Daskaris will present the new model at next PTO meeting.

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### **VI. Outdoor Learning Subcommittee: Update**

SLT subcommittee members Emel Topbas-Mejia, Chris Jennings, Conor, Doyle, Susan Hobson, and Leanne Gonzalez-Singer, along with parent members Jane Kim and Gina Shevenell and new additional members Jen Bennion (SLT/PTO) and Camila Otero (primary gardener), have been meeting remotely and on site to discuss solutions for making outdoor spaces functional as learning/classroom spaces. Particular focus on kindergarten path/garden/koi pond areas on south/east side of school, as the school yard area is noisier and better suited for gym/lunch/movement.

Chris Jennings will present proposal at next PTO meeting to fund storage bins, seating, umbrellas, soundproofing, etc. Total projected cost is just shy of \$2500, asking for 3,000.

### **VII. Website Subcommittee: Update**

Subcommittee members Emel Topbas-Mejia, Conor Doyle, Karima Khawja, and Susan Hobson met on Nov 12th and decided we would need a full redesign and relaunch of school web site. Goal is to make the web site function as both info portal for staff, students, and parents and an effective tool for PR and recruitment. We are doing outreach to educational web design companies and parents with expertise. Emel also exploring budget for redesign. Next meeting on 12/3 to review costs and start working on plan. Meanwhile, Emel and Conor continue to make adjustments to simplify and update website and liase with Ksenia Selemon (PTO communications secretary).

### **VIII. Remote Learning Community Standards Agreement Subcommittee: Updates**

Remote standards subcommittee will meet first to identify goals and purpose of the committee and then reach out to parent committee to discuss their proposal

### **IX. New Business**

Karima asked if there would be a conflict in her joining the board of Friends of 187. No conflicts were noted but Leanne will check the bylaws.