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**Heather Lorenz**  
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## **School Leadership Team**

**October 20, 2020**

**SLT Meeting #3 - Minutes**

### **Attendance:**

Mrs. Mertz, Mrs. Kelly, Mrs. Gross, Mrs. Arena, Mrs. Steiner, Mrs. Lorenz, Ms. Sellito., Mrs. Nussbaum, Mrs. Williams, Ms. Hannon

### **CEP Update:**

- ~Buckets of goals were approved.
- ~Assessments were started for fall.
- ~Running Records have begun.
- ~Waiting for further guidance from Central with the next steps on I Plan Portal

### **DOE Survey:**

- ~The survey will run from 10-26-20 to 10-30-20.
  - ~No information has come yet from Central DOE.
  - ~11/2/20 is the date the data will be received.
  - ~DOE will be providing a survey for families that would like to opt in to Blended Learning during the week of 10.26.20 to 10.30.20.
- During the of the week of 11.16.20, there will be a new session beginning. The week of 11.2.20, schools will be informed of the families who opted back in. The week of 11.9.20 the schools will be programming those schedules and informing families. The week of 11.16.20 schools will begin blended learning.

### **Picture Day:**

Mrs. Lorenz asked those who participated to express their thoughts on how it went. The responses were:

“It was fine.” “It was good.” “It was smooth.” “It went well and smooth.”

Mrs. Lorenz thanked Mrs. Arena for participating. “Thank you for volunteering, Mrs. Arena. You always do this.”

A question was asked, "Will teachers be having their pictures taken?" The response was they can if they want to have them taken. The dates are Thursday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Tuesday the 27<sup>th</sup>.

### **PA Business:**

~Picture Day:" My PA business was Picture Day."

*PA Meetings:* Ruth is attending Google Meets to see how to move forward on holding online PA Meetings because they are mandated.

Scholastic Book Fair: we are looking for ways to hold the book fair. We are awaiting a call back from the rep. We think we can do this. We think it will bring a sense of normalcy to the children.

*Funds:* our funds are depleted in our account since we didn't have the auction at the end of the year. We use that money for funding. We fund the graduations and dances. {Fees: no fees were being collected this year by the PA as dances are not taking place. That is where the \$ goes.}

*Possibilities* were discussed for fund raising efforts. An online auction was brought up. The strict guidelines, rules and stipulations were stated/discussed.

*Pumpkin Day:* will be funded by the PA. The location is yet to be determined. As of right now it will be held in the classroom during lunch time. However, weather permitting, it may move outside. Mrs. Lorenz and Mrs. Gallagher will work out the details. Costumes can be worn the last three days of the last week of October. It was brought up that this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> major traumatic event these children are facing in their lives and keeping the normalcy of school as close to possible is important.

### **Other:**

*Election Day Issues:* The voting booths have been delivered. Who is setting it up? Who is cleaning it up? Will the rooms be disinfected? Mrs. Lorenz replied that the custodial staff will be moving the furniture out of the rooms in use. The custodial staff will be setting up and cleaning up the rooms in use. Everything will be disinfected and ready for use the next day. The custodial staff is provided with extra funds to cover the cost of this expense. They are provided with a map on how to set it up. They have the supplies to disinfect both the classrooms used and the restrooms, too.

*Election Day:* What is happening for Election Day? Students and all Staff will be working remotely. At first it was just children and just UFT staff members. However, now it is all staff members.

## **Covid-19 Testing:**

### **Many points were made:**

~The language changes frequently on the DOE website

~State has taken over

~Is it still the first month you can skip and then you decide for the next round in the next month?

~Paraphrasing: Can I go to my own doctor for and have my child tested? According to the DOE Website the answer is, No. It states testing must be done on a single day at a single site by a single provider. If a child is tested by an outside provider and tests positive, that child must stay home for two weeks. No outside test will be counted in the monthly survey.

If a parent can produce a Negative test can their child come back to school? Mrs. Lorenz replied that she did not know, but she was sending this as one of the three questions to the Superintendent for an answer. She did look on the DOE website and was not able to see a response to this issue. She went on to explain that we have 246 children in total, 68 are remote, 178 are blended, which leaves us a 10% rate at 17 children. (Since 10%-20% of the school population will be tested when the Test and Trace Corps come.)

~Where will the children who refuse testing be held? Will it be in the Isolation Room?

Clarification is needed on this.

~Are 3K,4K, K and Special Education going to be tested? 3K and 4K are definitely not going to be. Kindergarten and Special Education we are looking into. The DOE website says Grades 1 - 12. We will confirm. Parents stressed that they are confused about this and need a clearer set of rules.

~Schools will be notified two days prior to the testing date.

~It is described as a QTip sized swab, done at the bottom of the nostril

How will I know if my child has been chosen for testing? According to the DOE Website it states that if your child was tested you will be notified after school that day. (Discussion took place over whether it was just if it was children who had parents who gave consent for the test from the get go.)

Parent{s}: "I would like to be on record stating I think it is completely unfair the way they are backing parents into a corner to do this."

Question: If a child wakes up with a headache, for example, out of an abundance of caution due to what is going on, can they stay home and attend online school? Will they be marked absent? Mrs. Lorenz replied that she hasn't seen any DOE guidance on that but as an educator and as a parent she feels it is fine for the child to stay home and that they will not be counted as absent. My teachers follow my coding system: P=present in school, O=online present, A=absent, M=missing from an online class. To clarify, best practice is to inform the office that your child is doing this. Call before 10am, as that is when Mrs. Gallagher sends the email to Mrs. Lorenz detailing attendance for the day. If you forget this, not to worry, the teachers will mark it in their attendance. In ATS the child will be marked Present as well. If this is something that needs to be revisited in the future (in case people are taking advantage of it) then we will revisit it again.

Will there be any thing for parents in the future, like a Google Meet for Parents? Mrs. Lorenz replied that she would like to have a community meeting. She may need to have one depending on the results of the DOE Survey, depending on who opts to return to Blending Learning. Mrs. Lorenz stated that she really doesn't have any new information to share. The parents stressed that they would like these meetings because they feel like they just want an administrator to say hey, I am here..., because they(the parents) do not really know what is going on in the building. Mrs. Lorenz stated that she normally did that at the PA Meetings (which she misses and is hoping that they are well attended when they go virtual). Mrs. Gross, stated that she would go back to Ruth and see what is happening with the PA Meetings. It would be a great place for Mrs. Lorenz to speak with the school community. If a PA Meeting isn't organized for November the parents stressed they think it would be a good idea for Mrs. Lorenz to hold a meeting for the school community just to say hello and let them know that she is there for them.

### **Meet The Teacher:**

Will there be a Meet the Teacher this year? Due to Covid, this is not something that teachers were contractually required to do this year. Since they are working under a temporary contract, they are following that contract.

### **Parent Teacher Conferences:**

An application was submitted to the UFT for a School Based Option. We are awaiting approval of that application. If approved, conferences will take place on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Conferences will be done virtually/phone. A survey of the staff will be taken to see how they would like to conduct these conferences.

Will a selection of all teacher's be offered? For example, if my student has an in person and a remote teacher, but is only having difficulty with the remote teacher, can I just speak with that person. Mrs. Lorenz will survey the parents to find out who they want to meet with and let staff know.

Students leave at 11:10am no matter what on Report Card Day.

November: The Meeting will be on the 10<sup>th</sup> at 4PM.

Clarification will be forthcoming with regards to the responses to the questions asked.

Thank you joining with us today.

See you next month.

