



SLT Minutes
December 20, 2023

- Minutes for October and November are accepted.
- Follow up with nurse as to whether or not one will be provided for 2nd grade swimming program.
- Email update will go out regarding parents not receiving email.
- Mrs. Sideris updated the basketball schedule and added 2 games to the schedule. The basketball schedule is a work in progress. Ms. Sideris messages the schedule to team member families directly and will then send out to the rest of the school community.
- Collected donations for our newcomer students; however many staff are absent due to sickness and will be postponed to a later date possibly January 4th. Mrs. Vasilopoulos will be inviting parents of newcomers for weekly orientation.
- Bilingual paraprofessional that sits with Newcomers during lunch and supports students with communication. Social worker is creating a socio-emotional group to transition better into the school community.
- Parents are concerned about Title I funding. Income Inquiry forms at 65 % for many years 1% has not been set aside for parent spending/engagement and were informed that PS85Q is no longer a Title 1 school. Lunch forms that are gathered this year will decide if PS85Q is a Title 1 school for the 2024-2025 school year. Parents are unsure about filling out Lunch Inquiry form. Title 1 pays for afterschool programs, art programs, teacher salaries etc. Lack of forms being filled out can lead to teachers being excessed if not received. The law implementing lower class sizes will hopefully ensure more funding to hire more teachers as well as funding for extra programs.
- Chronic absenteeism is still a major concern. Our school's goal is to drop it overall by 3%. We have an attendance committee to meet with our attendance teacher. Attendance awards are given to encourage students to come to school. Most absences are on Mondays or Fridays. PS85Q has incentives like "Ice-cream Fridays" to encourage students to come to school. There is no longer tracking of COVID infections by the school/D.O.E.
- CEP was submitted and approved by our superintendent. Every SLT member has access to it; cannot revise it is a public document.
- Pivoting to remote instruction due to inclement weather. Ensuring that students have devices at home to complete school work. Parents have been picking up devices facilitated by Mrs. Parada. If a child leaves the school, the expectation is that they return the device. Unfortunately, it does not happen all the time.
- Class space survey received on December 11th which identifies the classrooms in the school. Verify which are instructional classrooms. They will not take away our art room, science lab, gym because they are considered essential. Mrs. Chang has to agree or disagree with how many instructional classes are needed next year and may have to consider opening new classrooms for each grade due to lower class sizes. In turn, this may lead to hiring new classroom teachers or cluster teachers. It is projected that the DOE will need 7,000 teachers.

PS85Q The Judge Charles J. Vallone School
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Maria Samolis, Assistant Principal
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- Save for College accounts for K-2 in January. Information will be sent in the 1st week of January by the Parent Coordinator. The Parent Coordinators can assist parents to access their accounts and will coordinate with Kids Rise to update account information.
- Planning professional development regarding SLT training. District office will facilitate either in person or virtual training.
- Parents are allowed to attend NYCESPA for professional development. NYCESPA will be in March and Mrs. Chang will inform everyone who is interested in attending.
- Partnership with Parks Department to facilitate a program which will allow 2nd graders to swim at Flushing Meadows Park twice a week. Parents are provided with an FAQ regarding the program and we are still awaiting an answer as to whether a nurse will be available to attend.
- Schoolwide newsletter will be sent out and will include upcoming events, celebrations, parenting corner, Arts, ELA, Math, etc. Still figuring out how to do Awards Night in person, it is a logistical problem,
- Open Forum