

MINUTES
SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT) MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2017 AT 7:05AM IN THE LIBRARY

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05am.

In Attendance: Max Alvarez, Emma Balmuth-Loris, Catherine Box, Eileen Mishanie Goldberg, Rachelle King (7:15am), Pam Korson, Debra Mastriano, Deborah Middleton (7:20am), Julie Norwell, Nina Roosevelt-Collmer, Iuliia Stozub, and Rachel Polimeni (7:23am).

II. CEP Review

- a. Ms. Mastriano reported that the school superintendent visited her office since the last SLT meeting to review our efforts to track our CEP goals. The visit resulted in another round of revisions of our CEP goals that focus on better progress monitoring.

Ms. Mastriano distributed the revised CEP goals, which the group reviewed.

Mr. Alvarez suggested a minor edit for Goal #1 (Rigorous Instruction).

Ms. King inquired about the details for progress monitoring for Goal #2 (Supportive Environment) to which Ms. Stozub replied that OORS reports have already declined and are expected to decline further. Ms. Roosevelt-Collmer asked what the overall number of OORS incidents is currently, to which Ms. Mastriano replied she would get back to the group with the current data.

Ms. Mastriano asked all the teachers to comment on their involvement with progress monitoring of all the CEP goals and a short discussion ensued about the challenges of real-time monitoring for some of the goals.

- b. Ms. Korson directed the conversation back to Goal #2 by asking how RULER can support other children at school besides the at-risk children that are highlighted by the OORS reports and how we can monitor and respond to troublesome incidents that impact emotional well-being at school that might not rise to the level of an OORS incident, especially incidents that have a racial component. A lively and lengthy discussion ensued about how best to identify and track incidents that compromise a child's emotional well-being that may not be immediately obvious to either staff or parents.

Several solutions were proposed, including surveying students, creating restorative justice circles, encouraging teachers to spend a short amount of time each day with the class discussing problematic issues at recess, and informing students and parents alike of the availability of Guidance Counselor Danielle Berry as a resource for anyone that might need to discuss issues of concern.

There was universal agreement that the teacher of a classroom sets the tone and should address any issues of concern immediately and explicitly with the class.

- c. Ms. Mastriano informed the group that the Child Mind Institute will visit PS 166 on April 3 for a 1-day workshop that will involve the whole staff. They will target a group of at-risk children (both emotional and academic) at school that have been selected by the guidance counselor. Ms. Roosevelt-Collmer suggested that the staff of Re-Create, which oversees recess, be invited to join the meetings.
- d. It was observed towards the end of the discussion that further training of staff, including classroom assistants, could be another good resource for children who face challenges with their emotional well-being in school.

III. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Polimeni presented the January 24 SLT minutes for approval. Ms. Mastriano disagreed with a conclusion in the minutes that running records are not a good way to assess reading progress. The group debated the point and Ms. Box suggested omitting the point (III/b/ii) entirely from the minutes to reach consensus regarding the rest of the minutes.

After a small number of other minor revisions were suggested, the minutes were approved.

IV. Adjournment

There being no further time to continue the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17am.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Norwell
Co-Recording Secretary