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|  |  | **The Fairview School Public School 14, Queens** 107-01 Otis Avenue, Corona, New York, 11368  Telephone: (718) 699-6071 Fax: (718) 699-3224 |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| ANNEX SITE: 89-11 43 Avenue, Elmhurst, New York 11373 Telephone: (718) 397-1077 Fax: (929) 666-5809 | | | | |

**Ms. Heather Benson, Principal**

**Dr. Janine Chatterton Mrs. Danielle Tweedy Mr. Kalosh Dalipi Mr. Peter Cantalupo**

**Asst. Principal, Annex Asst. Principal Asst. Principal Asst. Principal**

**School Leadership Team Meeting Agenda**

**April 30, 2020**

**2:45 PM – 5:45 PM**

1. Call to Order:

v Members will confirm attendance: Mrs. Benson, Ms. Widom, Ms. Webb, Ms. Russo, Ms. Hammer, Ms. Bibiloni, Michelle DiMassi, Mary, Hilda, Luzzette, Carlos, Ignacio, Angelina

2. Reading and Approval of March 12, 2020, Meeting Minutes

v Ms. Bibiloni, SLT Secretary

3. New Business:

v **Remote Learning Feedback**:

-Ms. Widom’s Feedback- not one on one, but, kids are enjoying.

-Parent feedback- Mary: First 2 weeks were hard. Language barrier is hard for many parents. Parents are saying that it is as good as to be expected.

-Ms. Benson stated that we will now up the rigor, but will back off if need be.

- **Google Classroom**: Luzette would like to see more organization with Google Classroom with core subjects and cluster classes. She feels they are important subjects and she feels that sitting on the computer all day is not the best for kids. Carlos downloaded the app to his phone to review the work of his child. Parent’s asked if teachers are grading work. Teacher’s are grading and giving feedback.

Mrs. Benson suggested adding a June 26th due date for unfinished work.

Bibiloni, Luzzette, and Angelina like the set up of assignments in GC, but, Mary suggested finding a way to make old assignments disappear so the list is not so long. Bibiloni suggested adding an “archive” topic at the bottom of the classwork page to move old lessons to.

- **School Website:** Mrs. Benson mentioned a Padlet connected to the school website with information for parents. \*She emphasized that the school website is the best place to get information. Her morning message is posted there every day. Mrs. Slotnick is posting the student morning announcements.

Mrs. Benson also mentioned the “Mystery Reader” bedtime read aloud videos that will begin on Monday. Classes that guess the reader can get a Tiger Token. Those stories will be available through the summer. Other summer resources will be Lexia, read aloud sites (Readworks). Next month we can talk more about summer learning resources.

-**Summer schoo**l: not definite

**Grading Policy**: All K-5 schools- kids can either receive a grade of “meets standards” or “needs improvement”. If a child would be better off repeating a grade, and parents, teacher, principal and superintendent agree that that is in the best interest of the child, it is possible to hold them over.

-Mary has asked what measures can be taken to help catch kids up next year.

\*State has cut the education budget by almost 20 million dollars. Next year will be the worst budget we have ever seen, so there will be no budget for afterschool and Saturday school.

BUT, Beacon’s grant has been renewed AND Mrs. Benson is looking into online tutoring opportunities and other free supports.

-**Concerns**: Luzzette has voiced the concern of many parents that kids aren’t learning the way they would have in the classroom. Mrs. Benson: via the Chancellor, we have to pick up where we left off in September. She mentioned the read aloud videos again. Kids who can will be encouraged to do more. Mary expressed that it begins with the parents. Mrs. Benson reiterated that “needs improvement” does not mean failing. We will meet kids where they are and lift them up from there.

Carlos is concerned about parents finding out about the grading policy having a negative effect on kids doing work. He observed that “team spirit” is missing.

Mary voiced problems with the DOE ipads not having Lexia, youtube, and other important apps.

- **Suggentions:** Mrs. Benson: We went from over 200 device requests to only 40. She reminded parents about the ps14technology email address (Ms. LaPerla tech support).

-Carlos asked if there is a list of students who aren’t engaging.

-Ignacio suggested a letter be sent home to those parents to help them get onto GC. Mrs. Benson stated that we have a team of people doing just that. \*Michelle and other school aides are reaching out to those families.

-Angelina mentioned engaging students in other learning opportunities like cooking, planting, etc. to instil a love of learning.

-For social emotional learning: Mrs. Benson mentioned having a therapy dog. Ms. Hammer has the application.

-As per Mrs. Benson: Moya and Cruz’s offices have been great about getting food and other necessities to our families.

\*\*Mrs. Benson has been speaking to the district about the 480 kids we have that had no technology at home. She is looking into programs and charitable organizations to get kids devices they can keep so that we can keep integrating technology into our curriculum.

\*\*5th grade will get their yearbooks and have a signing party so they can see each other one more time in the Fall. 5th grade dues (36 dollars) will be mailed back by check or parents can pick up the money in the Fall.

v **Annex Moving to Main Building**:

-Mrs. Benson will speak with the Kindergarten. The city has sent boxes, they will fund the move. But, K will have to have a plan they are comfortable with doing this in the time of COVID. A D-75 school is going into the Annex.

-Ignacio brought up parents helping with the move.

v **Budget for Fall**: Luzzette is concerned about parents not able to purchase supplies in the Fall. PA can contribute some funds towards supplies. She suggested asking our assembly person and assembly person for funding. Mrs. Benson will get the budget on June 15th.

v **Teacher Positions** (excess)- We won’t know about excessed until the budget comes out.

v **Projected Amount of Students**- Luzzette asked if we know how many students are returning in the Fall. We are planning to open 4 less classes, as we intended all along. But, things are going to get tight. Kindergarten applications are being put online. Applications will be emailed to parents. That process will start in a couple of weeks. Other schools are talking about looping classes. ILT will discuss this on Weds. SLT Parents like the idea. Teachers will have the option to loop with their kids. Ms. Russo mentioned the benefits she experienced with looping a class.

v **Bilingual and ELL curriculum**: save for the next meeting.

4. **Unfinished Business:**

v **Cluster/Arts for September**- art, theatre, music, dance, computer science, gym (building in yoga and health/wellness, S.E.L..), science, social studies

5. **Creation of Agenda for Next Meeting:**  May 14th 2:45: Summer programming- Inspiring families to continue learning.

6. Adjournment

7. Executive Session