



School Leadership Team Minutes 2/27/18

Call to Order

- Queens Vocational and Technical High School SLT
- Meeting to Discuss
 - Mid Year CEP Goals
 - Chancellor Carmen Farina Visit
- Attendee Names
 - Melissa Burg Principal, Liseth Salas-Ocampo AP PPS, Jessica Dimech Teacher, Stavroula Nicolovienis Parent, Keitha Goodluck PA Secretary, Vanessa Hernandez, Parent, Guillermina Cruz Parent, Stephanie Cantos Student, Noor Aayla Student, Jairo Hormaza Student, Jessica Leon Student
- Observer Names
 - Dennis Whyte

Remarks

- Visit from Chancellor Farina
 - She was extremely happy to see the CTE program
 - Focus on Non-Traditional Employment for women
 - Young women from all over New York City were representing the fields as February is CTE month
 - Observed writing on bulletin boards and looked for student writing in CTE courses to ensure that QV is providing rigorous programs throughout the CTE program
- Teachers voted on changing the name to Queens Technical, with nearly 100 votes over 50% of voting staff selected the new name of Queens Technical, it's currently being fast tracked and we should be the QT's next year
- CEP mid-year goals
 - Questioning and discussing techniques;
 - The goal was to have an increase in the performance of teachers cited on their observation reports by 5% in this sub category. As we have currently made it to the mid-year an estimated 2% increase would have been a strong signal that we were on track. Unfortunately, we are falling short of that benchmark. Considering school administrators have adhering to suggestions to be more critical of staff; the mid-course check-in was anticipated to be a difficult hurdle to leap.
 - Ensuring that teachers have 2 PD's to improve cultural awareness within staff and students

- Feedback from community members state that we still have a need to better relationships between staff and students with a focus on increasing a students' comfort level and ability to talk openly to staff.
 - CREAD will begin sessions of PD to meet this need in the future.
 - CREAD is an education, equity, diversity and inclusion consulting, coaching and curriculum development firm.
 - Their motto is "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together. Understand we want to go far with you. "
- Teacher teams will be able to completely utilize protocols to analyze student work and improve teacher planning and instruction.
 - Trying to focus on 10th and 11th graders to catch kids before they "slip"
 - Martino Alves has been working with teacher teams and assisting on the increase of protocols
 - Daily department meeting have been a good shift, yet still a shift none the less
 - All teams have been focused on improvement with a focus on student learning.
- Each department will have a department leader and ensure that teachers have a voice in student learning that happens within the school.
 - English, Social Studies, CTE currently have teacher leaders
 - Students stated Math has the greatest need for a leader due to the following:
 - Very little coherence among topics across classrooms
 - Students mentioned the fact that even though they were in the 'same class' the content that they are being taught can be completely different
 - Also mentioned was the difficulty when transferring from one class to another the topics are either not cohesive or some students felt way behind
- Increasing the parent and community ties
 - We are on track to meet the goal of 10% increase in parent participation
- Student Concerns
 - Student concern for two years that some teachers seem dispassionate
 - Students don't complete work when they are unmotivated
 - Kids want a chance to submit project ideas
 - Some classes feel off-track while other students feel ahead
 - Due to the fact that students felt that they were not prepared for the regents last year many have begun to meet with study groups to ensure that they understand course material. When discussing content the variance between classrooms became evident

- Burg stated that teachers are to be following a course syllabus
- Teacher Concerns
 - Words from Ms. Burg; “Changes in administrative demands have changed how it is that we are evaluated and thus we must focus on the students needs; in the end they are the reason we are all here.”
- Parent Concerns
 - Are there still schedule changes?
 - When looking for lunch and gym switches better to wait until next semester, but when it comes to academic classes there is very little room to adjust schedules.

Unfinished Business

- None