

P.S.174Q School Leadership Team Minutes
Friday, October 28th, 2011

Meeting began at 7:45 AM

Attendance: Principal Karin Kelly, PA Co-President Dawn Geniale, Pat Evens, Susan Hammer, Gina Mastrogiacomo, Marie Russell, Elizabeth Vogelmann, Julie Milner, Nisren Ali
Observers: Laura Hui, Parent Coordinator

The reading of the minutes was waived until the next meeting.

Laura Hui received letters and emails from parents regarding truncation. When the email was sent out, to the entire school population, only 16 responses were returned. The responses were of mixed opinion.

At the general PA meeting, it was suggested by a parent that an additional survey be sent out to 5th grade parents only asking whether they plan to return for 6th grade; which was done. Additionally a general PA comments sheet was given out during the PA meeting, but only one was returned.

45 surveys were returned in total. Of the 5th grade surveys 23 families said their children would be coming back for 6th grade. 9 said they would not be, and 13 said they were undecided. 17 surveys were not returned.

Dawn Geniale stated that I.A. Superintendent Ffolks-Bryant said that the truncation decision for our school was already made, and that our school would be reevaluated in 2012-2013. Principal Kelly said that the only decision that was made was that the meeting for our proposal to truncate was postponed. Pat Evens checked emails and confirmed that according to her records no decision was made. Principal Kelly explained that if the decision was already made it would have defeated the purpose of holding this meeting and requesting the surveys/emails sent out to parents in order to make an informed decision and to figure out what parents were thinking.

Principal Kelly said that if it is feasible and possible then she wants to keep the 6th grade for next year. According to the blue surveys it is feasible and we do have the space. Laura Hui explained that she has made an effort to keep all parents informed by explaining all the options and the truncation process. Susan Hammer said that the longer we postpone the decision the harder the decision will be to make.

Laura Hui read the parent email responses aloud. She said that some of the parents expressed concerns about the G&T class for 6th grade. Many students in the G&T class are from another school, so Principal Kelly explained that unless there is a G&T class at PS 174 these students would not be able to attend PS 174.

The SLT voted and the final decision was to keep 6th grade for next year. It was noted that the team would have to revisit this issue again in the spring.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45