

School Action Team for Partnership

Minutes October 22, 2019

Members:

Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction: Brenda Coe

Principal: Nami Kuwabara

Curriculum Support: Bev Weitzman **Teachers:** Jenna Jordan, Jill Franciose

 $\ensuremath{^{**}}\xspace$ All attendees, please sign in on the attendance sheet. $\ensuremath{^{**}}\xspace$

| I. | Welcome & Introductions | This SAT is an open meeting forum Those in attendance were invited to bring others to the next meeting to grow the community and let all voices be heard. |
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| II. | Purpose of School Action Team | Six types of involvement were listed on the agenda including: - Supporting the whole child through academic achievement and social emotional learning - Effective family advocacy, communication, and engagement; - Ensuring a welcoming school environment - Offering volunteer opportunities for family and community engagement - Engaging families to support learning at home - Collaborating with Montclair Community |

| | Partners |
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| III. Environmental Magnet Theme | CHB will begin to study climate change: Grades 4 & 5 will partner with the Roots & Shoots program led by Caroline Schestag exploring how climate change affects animals, people, and the environment. A community partnership will include Bike Walk Montclair. Grades 2 & 3 will explore the difference between weather & climate and will learn about youth today having the particularly strong voice in bringing awareness of climate change. It will be important to include indigenous voices. (For example The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind) Mayida Zaal will assist in identifying youth to be heard. Questions were asked regarding our use of FOSS kits and if there was flexibility in embedding more instruction around climate change. Suggestion was made to bring Grades 4 & 1 together to cross- pollinate science, much like grades 5 & K do with literacy. Beth Pulawski suggested a partnership with the Montclair Community Farms and our CHB garden be formed, as she is the Garden Committee chairperson. A sign-up sheet was passed around for people to join the implementation of these efforts. |

| IV. | Charles H. Bullock 10 Year Commemorative Events | This year is the 10th year for the CHB School and an event is to be planned to honor and celebrate Mr. Charles Harmon Bullock. A committee is being formed to plan for the event to be held February 29, 2020. A sign-up sheet was passed around. Others are welcome to join. In the works is a commemorative T-Shirt made by students: each student illustrating what the environment means to them and the collective 466 drawings will be pixelated to show Charles Harmon Bullock's image. This will be done in partnership with Montclair Design Week Marco de Mel. It was suggested that a tour of the building be offered highlighting the LEED environmental aspects including the geo-thermal pump house and the solar panel roof. (Safety concerns rule out actual roof inspections, perhaps Mr. McGrath can send up his drone to photograph it!) |
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| V. | S.T.E.A.M. Infusion | What was once Family Math Night has been revised to Family S.T.E.A.M. Night; an event designed to promote family engagement. Brenda Coe has applied for a MFEE Grant to send teachers to PRISM workshop NGSS aligned Engineering Challenges for Elementary Students Gr K-5. This year CHB will work to infuse STEAM in students art and to infuse more STEAM learning and activities in the school day. |
| VI. | Community Suggestions | Could STEAM Night activities be infused into what is happening in the classroom more regularly? Committee will work with Caroline |

| to design ways to implement S.T.E.A.M. projects into our work with climate change. Discussion ensued on Gendered Play and deconstructing gender norms. Staff has attended workshops on gender bias and language awareness. Are teachers continuing training on Undoing Racism? Training is shifting toward Restorative Justice as presented to staff via the District resources. Social Studies is infusing alternate perspectives as history is being studied. This year's teacher professional development plan includes teachers re-examining their libraries to be culturally responsive and to offer diverse reading material to meet these needs. Ms. Coe has applied for grants to cover the costs for new books. A suggested resource to assist in helping to choose material is Dr. Linda Wise & Dr. Danne Davis of MSU. VII. Next Meeting: December 3, 2019, 6:30-7:30pm At our next meeting, topics to be discussed might include: STEAM infusion Climate Change committee Earth Day celebration | | |
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II. Purpose of School Action Team

- A. The district has adopted the School Action Teams for Partnership model to replace School Review. The model was developed by Johns Hopkins' researcher, Dr. Joyce Epstein, who has identified six types of involvement that make school-family-community partnerships successful:
 - Supporting the whole child through academic achievement and social emotional learning;
 - 2. Effective family advocacy, communication, and engagement;
 - 3. Ensuring a welcoming school environment;
 - 4. Offering volunteer opportunities for family and community engagement;
 - 5. Educating families to support learning at home; and
 - 6. Collaborating with Montclair Community Partners.