

Monday, October 4, 2021 – CRS PPLT Minutes

Meeting held in-person (CRS Library).

In Attendance:

CRS Faculty	Parent Members
Jennifer Darling, Principal Hope Weinberg, Assistant Principal Kate Homlish, Kindergarten Tyler Shea, 1 st Grade Maura Aiello, 2 nd Grade Victoria Vonholt, 2 nd Grade Theresa Connelly, 3 rd Grade Erica Keogh, 4 th Grade/SpEd Kerry Castro, 4 th Grade Rhonda Vanadia, 4 th Grade	Swati Goel-Patel (2019-2022) Gina Goldstein (2019-2022) Ellen Driscoll (2020-2023) Ashley Maranino (2021-2024)
<u>Absent:</u> Lisa DiFeo, 2 nd Grade	<u>Absent:</u> Lisa Sacks (2020-2023) Lindsay Fox (2021-2024)

Meeting called to order at 4:40 PM.

1. Welcome and Introductions.

- a. Ms. Darling called the meeting to order and welcomed us to the 2021-2022 Concord Road PPLT. This was the first time that the PPLT had met in person since March 2020! It was exciting for several committee members to see each other in person for the first time.
- b. Ms. Darling welcomed new members to the committee. Teachers and parents introduced themselves to each other, one by one.

2. Review and approve minutes.

- a. All members in attendance reviewed the minutes from our last session, May 2021. The minutes were approved without changes.

3. Review PPLT bylaws and the Ardsley School District Plan.

- a. All members in attendance reviewed the PPLT bylaws and district plan.
- b. Per the bylaws, we selected a parent-chair and teacher-chair for this year's PPLT.
 - i. Parent-chairs: Swati Goel-Patel and Gina Goldstein.

- ii. Teacher-chairs: Tyler Shea and Theresa Connelly.
- c. Per the bylaws, we selected parent-members to take minutes for each meeting.
 - i. October – Ellen Driscoll
 - ii. November – Gina Goldstein
 - iii. December – Swati Goel-Patel
 - iv. January – Ashley Maranino
 - v. February – Lindsay Fox
 - vi. March – Lisa Sacks
 - vii. April – Ellen Driscoll
 - viii. May – Gina Goldstein

4. Recapitulate last year’s PPLT focus.

- a. Ms. Darling and Ms. Weinberg reviewed our PPLT focus from last year, which was implementing a Framework for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) at Concord Road. Specifically, the PPLT culled a selection of culturally-responsive children’s books, aligned to essential questions and cultural themes throughout the year. Ms. Darling and Ms. Weinberg updated the group on how our DEI work will be used this year.
- b. It was announced that one of our Concord Road PPLT members from last year, Ms. Nanesha, who provided great insights in our DEI work, will now be serving as the district DEI representative. We commended Nanesha with pride!
- c. With pride, we commended one of our former Concord Road PPLT members, Ms. Nanesha Nuñez, for being selected as the district DEI representative. Ms. Nuñez, in addition to her classroom duties, will now take our DEI work and develop in the community, district-wide.

5. Create a PPLT charter.

- a. As a group, we answered this question: “how do we want to feel as a PPLT?” Through a shared Google Doc, members typed in their own aspirations for how to feel in this committee. Shared emotions were: collaborative, optimistic, productive, respected, valued, and inspired.
- b. As a group, we then brainstormed a list of behaviors that would promote those feelings. A sample is below.

<u>Feelings</u>	<u>Behaviors</u>
Optimism	Can-do spirit, growth mind-set, solution-oriented, “anything’s possible”

Productive	Clarity and accountability, delegate, having a clear agenda and objectives
Respected	Remaining open-minded, accepting varying view-points, agreeing to “listen to hear” rather than “listen to respond,” mindful of tone in collaborative manner
Valued	Every voice is heard, celebrate each other’s individual strengths, keeping an open mind and open heart, everyone’s opinion is valued, start on time, end on time
Inspired	Recognizing that we’re here for a common goal, growing off each other’s ideas, excitement for the work that we’re doing, feeling empowered that we can have an impact on our community, not being boxed in by budget or bureaucracy.

6. Discussion on PPLT charter.

- a. Ms. Darling and Ms. Weinberg led the committee in a discussion of how we should use the charter. The group agreed that the charter—both feelings and behaviors—should guide our meetings, perhaps appearing at the start of each agenda. The group felt that if someone isn’t honoring the charter, we should go to the parent-chair or teacher-chair for advice. The parent-chair or teacher-chair can then help the whole committee discuss how to get back on track with the charter.

7. PPLT Focus for 2021-2022.

- a. Ms. Darling and Ms. Weinberg presented a problem of practice at Concord Road: the school continues to increase its student capacity. The group began preliminary discussions on the issues of space and increased enrollment in the district, and specifically at Concord Road. The group would like to develop this focus further at the next meeting in November.

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Next Meeting will be Monday, November 1, 2021, in-person. Minutes are to be taken by Gina Goldstein.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Driscoll.

