

FRANKLIN ELEMENTARY PTO

GENERAL PTO MEETING

December 7, 2018

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Melissa Madden, Janice Tierney, Jenn Hicks, Rachel Callahan, Caroline Heyer, Isabel Riberio, Renata Estupinan, Vanessa Cohen, Alyssa Vazquez, Jill Hoefs, Michael Hoefs, Donna Patel, Shawn Rajguru, Megan Rende, Margot Zigmont, Sarah Fitzsimmons, Ajay Shroff, Kelly Bachman, Susan Campbell

PARCC Presentation by Mrs. Tierney:

The PARCC test is for 3rd through 11th grade in NJ. We use the data to develop teacher training and improve instruction. It is just a snapshot, or a moment in time. Other factors, such as fatigue, confidence, health issues, can impact the results. The test is one of a number of ways to measure learning.

Franklin performs exceedingly well and consistently outperforms the state and district. Comparing year over year, there was growth in all areas except there was a 1 point drop in math from fourth to fifth grade, which may have been a function of a shift (decrease) in the number of students in the classes. Information is pulled out of the individual reports to determine strengths and areas to improve.

Areas of focus for reading/writing are reading informative text and vocabulary, and for math it is numbers & operations (fractions) and modeling & reasoning.

Jacki Aturi and Tanya Lopez (Instructional Coaches):

The new workshop model helps focus on the process not the product. It is learning by doing. The workshop model meets individual needs as opposed to a teacher in the front of the room addressing a class as a whole.

In reading/writing it starts with a mini lesson, then practice and finally share and reflect. The key questions are "What am I noticing" and "what is the big learning." In math, it starts with a warm up; hands on mini lesson, learning solutions then reflect and share.

How do we differentiate learning needs with this model? A number of ways are implemented, one on one, small groups, problem solving between kids and mini lessons.

It is important to build independence. This can be accomplished by building stamina, a growth mindset and trying not to steal the struggle.

There are at home suggestions. For math- positive attitude about math, problem solving in real life, play games, read math books and math in the kitchen. For reading/writing- read a lot in different ways, a lot of talking & listening, make reading & writing a priority and be consistent.

President's Report:

Franklin Fair needs two volunteer coordinators. Parent volunteering is necessary for the biggest fundraiser of the year in order to fund enrichment, author visits and assemblies.

Committee Reports

Treasurer's Report- everything is moving along as planned, and the holiday shop was a success

VP- Mini grants were up this year and allowed the teachers to receive curriculum supplements for their classrooms.