

CRS PPLT Minutes

Monday, December 2, 2024

4:40-5:30 p.m.

Meeting held in-person in the Main Office Conference Room

CRS Parents PPLT	CRS Faculty PPLT	CRS Admin PPLT
Brianna Johnson (2025)	Kdg-Francine Trapani	Vidya Bhat
Christina Lamendola (2025)	1st- TBD	Tiffany Babb
Lauren Dermody (2026)	2nd- TBD	
David Fink (2026)	3rd- Michelle Mancini	
Jessica Bressler (2027)	4th- TBD	
Jesal Miller (2027)	Support Staff- TBD	

1. Attendance

- In Attendance: Listed in **bold** above

2. Opener:

- **Thanksgiving Traditions**

3. Review and Approval of Minutes from November 2024 Meeting

4. CRS Updates:

Update on what's happening at CRS from CRS Administration and Faculty

- MTSS-Tier 1 supports at beginning led to successful tier 1 interventions
- Entering stage of finding best supports for each student at building level
- Getting families in to share traditions, beginning with Hanukkah this week and continuing, parents and Grandparents coming in
- 3rd grade culture unit- hanging family crest projects- calling it "Hall of cultures" Everyone is excited and respectful in learning about everyone else's cultures. 3rd grade invites family throughout the year to teach about cultures. Learning how many cultures there are and differences between cultures with a focus on being so much more similar than we are different and making those connections. Crest projects in hall makes tangible for them.

5. Focus of the meeting:

Presentation by Principal Bhat & Assistant Principal Babb of CRS Goals

Focus points:

a. Culture

CRS as foundation, what can we do to make CRS have a “small school feel” in a big school. Want to provide stability and consistency. We could be two schools in one.

PART 1

Short term goal- be able to support social emotional learning, but not superficially. Prioritizing this so more emotionally available to focus on demands and meet needs as well as pragmatics of life.

Long term- Michelle Stavrou is currently doing job of two people. She is doing the work of both school counselor and social worker. How would a new role be parceled out- as counselor or social worker?

Proposal: Discuss with Ms.Stavrou and hire another person to take on partner role

PART 2:

Dr.Bhat and Ms.Babb spend a good deal of time supporting what happened on the bus in the morning or prepping for ride home. Only bus driver (who is driving and looking forward) and kids as witnesses of events, so often watching 30-40 minutes of video is necessary to find moment of conflict. Want to continue thoughtful investigations. Want students to be accountable but also have kids being in reconstructive structure and allowing them to learn from experience and make change for future.

Proposal: Create role of Dean of Discipline and Restorative Practice which would allow admin to be more supportive to teachers and students in a different way and access classrooms more and meet more needs at micro level and macro as well.

b. Instructional – on hold til next meeting

c. Safety

Bus- want to reduce infractions on buses- want one monitor on each big bus (9). Would need PPS involved as well because would need to investigate if particular students who require a 1 to 1 aide during the school day would need an additional adult on bus.

Proposal: Hire monitors to each of 9 full sized buses as well as potentially adding more one to one aides when needed on either minibus or full bus.

Health- We only have 1 full time nurse and 1 part time. During busy times in Nurse's office, (lunch/recess) kids could wait 30 mins to be seen, which is time they should be in class and are missing instruction. Want to meet kids needs in swift and immediate way.

Proposal: Add .5 Nurse to budget/schedule so that we have 2 full time Nurses on staff.

Feedback from PPLT: Modified Notice and Wonder Protocol

Round 1-What do you notice?

Culture

Notice and love idea of "Stability and consistency"
Make parts of building feel smaller

Notice idea of taking a village, its all of us and giving us the time to learn how to best support our students

Notice this was perfectly aligned with staff training today and something that has been necessary for a long time.

Can't believe how much time you need to spend looking into this and waste of your resources and time

Looking at current systems and with focus of SEL develop a system that's more beneficial to our kids

Round 2-What wonderings does this bring up?

Culture

Wonder if could incorporate BCBA on staff for behavioral understanding and interventions

Wonder how much money would be needed to put monitors on each bus

Wonder if students could take roles as bus monitors

Wonder if we could also use students to begin Peer Mediation at CRS. Students helping students. How to use questions and protocol to try to resolve. And to understand other perspectives.

Assuming these roles would put out fires on back end, wondering what front end would look like

Wondering if new hire could help with transition from 4th to 5th

Recognizing we are one of the largest elementary schools in Westchester county- Wondering what is our responsibility as a community to make sure our students and staff are getting support they deserve

Recognizing needs have changed, faculty and resource additions need to reflect that and wondering why haven't in so long.

Wondering How are Ardsley schools the same as they were 30 years ago when so much changes around us

Round 1-What do you notice?

Safety

Noticed shout out to nurses, they work tirelessly and it's not brought up enough in this building

Noticed making part time nurse to full time nurse (.5 increase) and 9 bus monitors

Noticed guard at the door near nurse

Noticed wanting 1 to 1 aide on bus for children who need this in school for emotional support and behavioral management

Notice if need it in school need it on bus

Notice reducing infractions, thinking about every child and what they need.

Round 2- Wonderings?

Safety

Wonder what data to gather to support these needs and is it anecdotal, survey, what have you started collecting and what else is needed to make a strong case?

(Response-presenting data book as well as budget proposal so they go together)

Wonder would you be asking for additional social worker, psych, special ed curr. Etc?

(Response-discussing with Ms. Stavrau to see what she sees fit for new role and self)

Wondering how do you get these resources without the complaints that will come from taxpayers? Can we save on other things?

(Response- need to look at projected enrollment, conscious to make dean 10 month instead of 12 month and not new admin on budget. Trying to be as creative as possible to minimize impact)

Wonder do we have same number of staff at the other district schools?

Wondering about seeking out to colleges etc for staff who are still learning/studying

Upcoming Meetings Plans:

January- budget

February- restorative practice

March- communication to gather support for goals

Action Item: Reach out to PTSA to get another parent on PPLT

Minutes & Snacks for 2024-25		
Month	Minutes	Snacks
~~Oct.~~	Christina	Vidya & Tiffany
~~Nov.~~	Lauren	Jessica
~~Dec.~~	Jessica	Christina
Jan.	David	Lauren
Feb.	Jesal	David
Mar.	Parent TBD	Jesal
Apr.	Christina	Vidya & Tiffany
May	Lauren	Jessica

Minutes submitted by Jessica Bressler