

# School Action Team for Partnership

### **Minutes**

### February 11, 2020

Members: (see attendance)

**Supervisor of Curriculum & Instruction:** Brenda Coe

**Principal:** Nami Kuwabara **Teachers:** Jenna Jordan

## I. Environmental Magnet Theme

- a) Caroline Schestag gave the report. CHB 4th
   & 5th graders are participating in Jane
   Goodall's Roots & Shoots program.
- b) Recent topics: Background of the organization, benefits of recycling, impacts of global warming, and Bike Walk Montclair assembly.
- c) Next steps: parent volunteers are helping organizing students in their leadership teams, students have eagerly taken on the responsibility of managing all communication that shares what they are accomplishing within their campaign for impacting climate change. Student groups email, update our Roots & Shoots webpage, create visual arts displays for the lobby showcases and inform the community through discussions.
- d) Roots & Shoots has partnered with Bike Walk Montclair and they hope to canvas the neighborhood to highlight safe sidewalks, host a learn to ride workshop, and organize a pop-up bike lane.

- e) It was suggested that the Principal's Update include a tip from the Roots & Shoots team leaders once per month. Caroline can organize this to start in March.
- f) Waste-free lunch campaign will be launched as a refresher on how we can reduce waste at CHB.

#### II. Charles H. Bullock 10 Year Commemorative Events

May 4-May 8 Week of Activities

May 9th Eco-Fair

- a) March 13th Morning Meeting Assembly focus is "Be The Change". At this assembly 2nd grade students and teachers will celebrate Charles Harmon Bullock's birthday (March 2nd) by sharing information they have learned about him. Caroline Schestag will organize 4th grade Roots & Shoots members to launch a school-wide waste-free lunch campaign. The CHB 10-year Commemorative Poster will be unveiled and given to each child to take home. This poster consists of 463 drawings made into a collage poster, with Charles Harmon Bullock's image on top of the collage.
- b) Eco-Fair, the celebration of our environmental magnet, will be held May 9th. We invite vendors who promote the awareness of sustainability and environmentally friendly initiatives. Each grade level creates a display to showcase how the environmental curriculum is incorporated into what they are learning.
- c) Ms. Holtz submitted CHB's Sister to Sister group, (consisting of 4th & 5th grade girls), suggestions on how they could take a leadership role in planning events for the week of May 4-May 9.
  - School Action Team members reviewed the suggestions and would like for them to lead the "Passport Project" teaching students about the environmentally friendly features of

CHB and Charles Harmon Bullock. The students will plan the symbol to be located throughout the school, write a description for the feature being highlighted, and create a passport for the students to carry around as they explore the building with their teacher. Students who get their passport signed at home and return to school will be entered into a raffle for a chance to win CHB spirit items. Suggested items were a Bento Box Lunch container, reusable water bottle, Anniversary t-shirt etc. The drawing will take place at Eco-Fair.

- ii) Idea was shared to create a mural at Eco-fair out of reusable materials that can be hung in the cafeteria.

  Suggested a time lapse video be made of the process. This is possible if we can get a parent volunteer to help with this and Sister to Sister students to help in monitoring the art project during Eco-Fair.
- d) Host a meeting at CHB in the morning for other committee members to share their ideas for ways to celebrate our 10-year anniversary.
- e) PTA's Health and Wellness Committee would like to form a Running Club and it was decided that the launch of this initiative should be tied into field day.
- f) T-shirts marking the 10-year anniversary will be for sale prior to Eco-Fair, so that the community can wear them at the event.
- g) Suggested that we fundraise to improve our Secret Garden.

#### III. Community Suggestions

a) Launch a "Be Kind" campaign. Make Ben's Bells and spread kindness throughout the community and/or Montclair. A "Be Kind" mural was also suggested for the school. It

was noted that currently the 1st and 3rd grade halls in the school have a large "Be Kind" display. b) Brenda and Nami shared that Bullock's Title I committee elected to use Title I funding to purchase the Manners of the Heart curriculum. It will supplement our Responsive Classroom approach to social emotional learning. The focus of the lessons will target "Helping when Asked" in grades k/1, Helping Without being asked in grades 2 & 3, and Helping by Teaching in grades 4 & 5. Teacher training and materials will be delivered soon. Families will receive newsletters to inform them on how they can support what students are learning in school as the school explores the concepts of respect, kindness, acceptance, and hope. c) The PTA's Health and Wellness Committee distributed over 100 valentines to First Montclair House. The valentines were made by YMCA after school program kids at CHB. This is part of the committee's commitment to focusing on the health and wellness of not just our students, but families and community. Each valentine had a heart healthy health tip. d) Please advertise at PTA meetings and on the PTA website for parents to visit our CHB webpage to view the minutes of the School Action Team meetings.

Bring a friend!

IV.

**Next Meeting:** 

June 9, 2020 6:30-7:30pm

### **Purpose of School Action Team**

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:

- 1. 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.