

# *Commack Middle School*

## **School-Based Management Team**

### *Meeting Minutes*

#### *Members and Membership Groups*

*November 1, 2017*

<i>Administration</i>	<i>Community</i>	<i>Teaching Staff</i>
Anthony Davidson*	Vicki Ragavanis*	Ed Cuff
Ali Glassman	Jill Breslin	Randie Taylor ++
Carrie Lipenholtz	Laurie Schoenfeld	Susan Boyce
		Mary Nerko
<i>CTA</i>	<i>Support Staff</i>	Ann Marie Ferreri
Carolyn Burton-Gajda	Veronica Plotke	

++ Facilitator

\*Absent

#### **Introduction**

- Meeting began at 3:04 pm.

#### **Adoption of Minutes from October 4, 2017 Meeting**

- The minutes from the October 4, 2017 meeting were adopted.

#### **Old Business**

#### **LGBTQ Discussion**

- Need to increase education and support for LGBTQ students at CMS.
- CHS has supports for students (GSA club).
- “Enhancing the Learning Environment of LGBTQ Students at Commack Middle School” distributed and reviewed.
- There is a proposal for GSA (Gay/Straight Alliance) club at CMS but with a more general name to be more inclusive.
- Estimated 10% of students at CMS identify as LGBTQ.
- How do we make CMS a more welcoming environment for those students?
- Age appropriate education is needed.
- LGBTQ Network can provide community educators free of charge.
- Discussed 3 ways to educate students:
  - School assemblies – not targeted enough.
  - Push-in to health classes – smaller setting, encourages more discussion, can touch entire student body - LGBTQ students may feel uncomfortable in those classes but support can be provided.
  - Clubs (like Beautiful Me) – sign up based on interest. May be a way to introduce program and then broaden based on student participation. Also encourage students to join who want to support their LGBTQ friends.
- Discussion about how to introduce program to the community.
- Go back to constituent groups for feedback for next meeting.

**Backpack Rule Discussion**

- Student feedback is that they don't think they carry too much stuff.
- Mixed feedback from parents – some want no bags, many happy with string bags, some prefer backpacks (because they have to pick their battles).
- Staff and administration will revisit supply list to see if they can pare down what students need to carry during the school day.
- It was suggested that a decluttered backpack/string bag or no bag at all may help declutter the mind.
- SBMT needs to make a decision and send a consistent message to the community.
- Be prepared to make a decision at the next SBMT meeting and (if needed) spend the remainder of this year discussing implementation for next year.

**Feedback from SBMT Training**

- Touched on briefly. Lots of down time but they were glad to be able to train together.

**New Initiatives:**

- None

**Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 pm.
- The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 6, 2017.

*Respectfully submitted by Laurie Schoenfeld*