

Booker T. Washington Middle School 54  
 103 West 107<sup>th</sup> Street  
 New York, NY 10025  
 Phone: 212.678.2861

**SLT Minutes**

September 13, 2019  
 7:20 AM

SLT Members

Core SLT Positions	Teacher Representatives	Parent Representatives
Elana Elster, Principal	Randee Johnson	Stefanie Goldblatt
Jose Beauvais, UFT rep	Elizabeth McNulty (co-chairperson)	Andy Weinstein (co-chairperson)
Laura Adams, PTA Co-Pres	Sara Lichtman	Brad Roberts
Jerome Kramer, PTA Co-Pres	Richard Cappadona	Jeanne Goffi-Fynn
*Peter Armstrong, DC37 rep	Rachel Weisz (co-secretary)	Jacqueline Shannon
		Laura Adams (co-secretary)
		Hudson Roditi
		**George Schneiderman

\*Absent

\*\*Late

**Observers:** Anne Pejovich, Chris Giordano

**Elections of Positions**

- Co-chairs: Andy Weinstein (Parent), Liz McNulty (Teacher)
- Recording Secretaries: Laura Adams (Parent), Rachel Weisz (Teacher)

**Calendar of Dates**

- October 11, 2019
- November 8, 2019
- December 13, 2019
- January 10, 2020
- February 14, 2020
- March 20, 2020
- April 3, 2020

- May 8, 2020
- June 12, 2020

## **Minutes**

June 14, 2020 SLT Minutes were approved with minor changes. The SLT Secretaries will send the final version to Joanne Giordano to be posted.

## **Discussions around Agenda**

### **Changes for 2019-2020**

- Cell Phone Policy
  - EE provided example to demonstrate procedures
  - EE explained alternative systems and why they would not be as beneficial for our situation, including system in which cell phones ultimately wouldn't be collected until November. Expense was also an issue.
  - Teachers reported the procedures have been implemented pretty smoothly without much pushback from students. Fewer bathroom breaks
  - Question about smart watches (including Fitbits) - general agreement that they all fall under the collection policy
  - Question about teacher liability (broken, lost, etc.). EE reports teachers have no legal liability, but suggestion was made to take a picture of the box before it is locked away.
- Lunch Periods: 8th grade moved to 4th period (11:30); 6th grade moved to 6th period (1:12)
- Reading Class: for all grades, based on assessment data. Instead of foreign language. Replaces "Skills" which was both Humanities and Math skills. Taught by Rachel Pinsen, former 6th grade Humanities. Designed to provide targeted support. 6th graders will still be eligible for foreign language in 7th grade.
- Open Jupiter Policy: will be open soon after class lists are finalized. Assignments will be viewable (not overall grade). General caution regarding parents checking too much and maintaining philosophy of encouraging student responsibility. Clarifications to be made for teachers about what details will be viewable.
- 6th Grade Tech/Health: Combined technology class with health to start with the latter earlier (rather than in 7th grade).
- Physical Education: 8th grade back down to once per week (extra period given back to Humanities - 10 periods per week now).
  - Question about how to better support physical education department. JB reports idea, driven by Frank DiPasquale, to build a rock wall to increase spaces where students can be active within the existing gym space
- 7th Grade Math: No pooling based on pacing. Determined that there were not enough students who needed a slower paced option to create a full class. As a result, all G7 math classes will move at the honors pace.

### **Explanation of Class Breakdown**

- "Current Class Information Report" provided to all members. Current total number of students is 860.
- EE reported process of working with enrollment office.

### **Bridge Program Recap**

- RC reports that the week went very well with experiences in academic instruction and social-emotional development. Says it has created a sense of community and positivity for the students who participated.
- About 60 students were invited based on academic records and admissions records. About 30 students attended.
- Funded by PTA
- Introduced students to *The Outsiders* and completed science and math gardening project in the mornings. Afternoons were spent working with tutors (some recruited from JCC) to complete summer assignments.
- Parents came first day for breakfast and meeting
- Suggestion by BR to compare this group to a comparable group who would have been eligible the previous year to see if there is a demonstrable difference
- Question about how records matched ability once students arrived. RC reports general match between records and ability demonstrated.

### **CEP Goals for 2019-2020**

- Still in progress due to district/superintendent changes.
- Goals should be related to math, equity, and ELA. Equity related to created a greater sense of community and more diversity/inclusivity.

### **New Business**

- Faculty changes: 3 teachers replaced. 3 new positions created.
- Expecting information about issues such as restorative justice to be rolled out by the superintendent
- Proposed additions for next agenda
  - More field trips

### **Coffee Rotation**

- October 11, 2019: Stefanie Goldblatt
- November 8, 2019: Laura Adams
- December 13, 2019: Brad Roberts
- January 10, 2020: Andy Weinstein
- February 14, 2020: Jeanne Goffi Fynn
- March 20, 2020: Jacqueline Shannon
- April 3, 2020: Hudson Roditi
- May 8, 2020: no volunteer yet
- June 12, 2020: no volunteer yet