

MS54 – SLT MEETING MINUTES for September 14, 2018

**SLT Members:**

<b>Core SLT Positions</b>	<b>Teacher Representatives</b>	<b>Parent Representatives</b>
Elana Elster, Principal	Richard Cappadona	Barbara Denham
Jose Beauvais, UFT rep	Briana DeSantis (co-chairperson)	Alison Gardy
Jerome Kramer, PTA Co-Pres	Randee Johnson	Stefanie Goldblatt (co-chairperson)
*Peter Armstrong, DC37 rep	Sara Lichtman (co-secretary)	Patricia Saydah (co-secretary)
	Elizabeth McNulty	Jeanne Goffi-Fynn
		Open Position
		Open Position

\*Absent

**Observers:** Alli Brettschneider (6<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent), Joanne Giordano (PTA Corresponding Secretary), and Chris Giordano (7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent)

*Meeting convened at 7:27am at Booker T. Washington*

**Minutes:**

June 8, 2018 SLT Minutes were approved. The SLT secretaries will send to Joanne to be posted.

**Discussions around Agenda:**

SLT Meeting Calendar for 2018-2019

- Second Friday of Each Month
- Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14, Jan 11, Feb 8, Mar 8, Apr 12, May 10, June 14

Election of SLT Chairs and Secretaries:

- Co-Chairs: Briana DeSantis (School Staff) & Stefanie Goldblatt (parent)
- Co-Secretaries: Sara Lichtman (School Staff) & Patricia Saydah (parent)

Review of student totals & classes for 2018-2019

- Total of 888 students (approximately 35 more than 2017-2018)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Classes: A total of 11 classes, including 3 ICT classes and 1 Self-Contained Special Education class
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: A total of 9 classes, including 2 ICT classes and 1 Self-Contained Special Education class
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: A total of 10 classes, including 2 ICT classes and 1 Self-Contained Special Education class

Review of draft CEP Goals for 2018-2019

**GOAL 1. RIGOROUS INSTRUCTION**

*By June 2019, students in 12:1:1 classes will improve their reading skills as evident by an overall 2% increase on the New York State ELA exam.*

(Discussion: State Test score results are still embargoed by DOE. However, school has raw results. MS54 is slightly below city performance of 12-1-1 classes. Need to develop programs to help students, such as HW help and after-school programs.

**GOAL 2. SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT**

*By June 2019, the school will expand and develop its peer-buddy program in order to help support sixth graders in their transition to middle school, as measured by one activity each month.*

(Discussion: Encourage 8<sup>th</sup> graders to participate.)

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### GOAL 3. COLLABORATIVE TEACHERS

*By June 2019, every teacher team will review student work once a month and will prepare at least one common assessment each quarter as documented through the team's Google documents.*

(Discussion: The common assessment will allow school to analyze performance of one class against another.)

### GOAL 4. EFFECTIVE SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

*Given the growing diversity of the student body, teachers are in need of more feedback and professional learning on differentiation.*

(Discussion: Help teachers to expand skills to support students with differentiated strategies. This is especially important in ICT classes, where there are students at different learning levels. In 2019, 25% of seats at MS54 will be reserved for students with 1's and 2's on State Tests and come from low economic homes.)

### GOAL 5. STRONG FAMILY COMMUNITY TIES

*By June 2019, 40% of the students with disabilities will participate in the after-school academic support program in order to help them improve their skills and complete their work.*

(Discussion: MS54 is starting a program this year with Columbia University students to create study teams for both struggling and high achieving students.)

### EQUITY GOAL

While the CEP is for the State, District 3 has set forth an additional goal of equity. This goal is not to be included in the CEP, but to be part of the school's goals. *Goal under development.*

Discussion pertaining to the goal of equity:

- What does equity mean and how to address it?
  - All students can achieve with special support.
  - All schools must create an equity team. And create a goal/report which best applies "equity" to their school. Equity team should be separate from SLT and include parent involvement.
  - Create sensitivity. Address bias.
- SLT agreed to develop an Equity Committee. Elana Elster will define this new committee and will notify the teacher and parent community via school newsletter. Dr Elster will manage responses from volunteers wishing to participate. There will be an Equity Committee representative invited to join SLT meetings, as needed.)

### Wellness Committee Update

- There is a new 6th Grade Parent Co-Chair Eric Supcoff to work alongside teach Co-Chair Deirdre McEvoy
- Next Wellness Committee meeting is Sept 20<sup>th</sup> at 8am at Booker T.
- Discussed CEP "Buddy Goal". There is value to both 6<sup>th</sup> Graders (adjustment to school) and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders (leadership skills). Encourage 8<sup>th</sup> graders to participate. Need consistent core of buddies.
- On Monday, Sept 24<sup>th</sup> they are kicking off training "Open Space Technology." This is a meeting technique that can be used to bring out participation during meetings and ensure everyone is heard. Alison Gardy is teaching.

### New Business:

- Stephanie Goldblatt went to Mayor's town hall and has also been meeting with other parents to understand/influence HS admissions process.
- The Mayor's position regarding equal access to Specialized HS's is inconsistent with the policies for Screening Schools.
- Topics being discussed:

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- Make tours more accessible. Too many families are shut out because there's not enough space.
- Can schools provide more information online for parents who can't attend tours.
- HS admissions process is very time consuming.
- Change rubrics for absences. There are schools who disqualify students for 4-5 absences, yet strong students could have been out of school with flu and other.
- Specialized HSs and Screening Schools should be on the same admission preference list. Today, they are separate lists.
- Relook at rubrics for screening schools.
- For D3 students, there are VERY few spots in screening schools (no schools give *priority* to D3 students). The schools which give priority to D2 students should be changed so that it's priority to Manhattan students.
- Do schools have the budget/resources to support both ICT and Accelerated programs?
- Dr Elster share an update in policy for 2018/19 school year...EVERY student will receive a HS match.

*The meeting adjourned at 8:35 am.*

*Meeting minutes submitted by SLT co-secretaries Sara Lichtman (teacher) and Patricia Saydah (parent).*