

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

SLT Minutes

January 10, 2020
 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
Peter Armstrong, DC37 rep	Richard Cappadona	Jeanne Goffi-Fynn
	Rachel Weisz (co-secretary)	Jacqueline Shannon
		Laura Adams (co-secretary)
		Hudson Roditi
		George Schneiderman

*Absent

**Late

Observers: Chris Giordano, Jerome Kramer, Anne Pejovich

Calendar of Dates

- February 14, 2020
- March 20, 2020
- April 3, 2020
- May 8, 2020
- June 12, 2020

Minutes

December 13, 2019 SLT Minutes were approved.

Agenda Discussions

- Update on Sixth Grade

- Discussion around how best to support our heterogeneous classrooms
- How do you ensure all students are supported while challenging the kids who are comfortable, interested and want more?
- While there are struggles, over the holidays, every single kid participated in a class “secret snowflake” gift exchange demonstrating social inclusivity
- In a reading class, where the level is more homogenous, struggling kids feel more successful (true for all grades)
- Suggestion made to reach out to programs at Bank Street, Columbia, etc. to help with ideas for interventions
- Assignment of Language Options, 2019-2020 7th Grade
 - Electives
 - 67% got first choice
 - 27% got second choice
 - Foreign Language
 - 76% for first choice
 - 11% got second choice
 - Remainder in both categories didn’t submit preferences, were grouped with self-contained schedule, moved to a reading intervention, etc.
- Adoption of the NY State science standards
 - There is a new, nationally-developed set of science standards
 - AMNH has been working on developing curriculum for science teachers to make it as similar as possible to how scientists work
 - The goal is to offer a more broad, authentic, culturally relevant, and multidisciplinary approach, which may appeal to a more diverse spectrum of students
 - However, it is likely difficult for teachers to develop their own curriculum that covers all the different facets that this is attempting to connect
 - Amplify Science is one of several companies/organizations dedicated to assisting teachers in the development and implementation of materials
 - Tweaks are being made to the MS54 science curriculum based on PD on the standards, but there’s further interest in understanding what the AMNH offerings/recommendations are
 - Implementation eventually involves 8th grade state test (June 2022) and Regents (June 2023)
 - Physical science is not as well supported by AMNH as the Hall of Science, which does not seem to be doing as much in support of teachers
- PTA Update: Hate Crime Forum and Resource Fair
 - Hosted at MS54, co-sponsored by Community Board 7, attended by elected officials
 - Tutor Fair has evolved to include wider variety of resources
 - Will be an increased police presence around the school based on recent events
- Wellness Update
 - March 13 (half day) two one-hour sessions - some lecture based, some more active
 - Looking for 30 presenters across a broad range of disciplines
 - February 14 is no one eats alone day; G6 to lead what that looks like to empower them
- New Business
 - Black History Month Assembly - working on developing a program where in addition to a performance, there would be a forum and a parent performance as well