

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

**SLT Minutes**

October 11, 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
*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:** Anne Pejovich, Chris Giordano, Jerome Kramer

**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**

September 13, 2019 SLT Minutes were approved. The SLT Secretaries will send the final version to Joanne Giordano to be posted.

## Agenda Discussions

- Update on changes for 2019-20 (developments since last meeting)
  - There was an abbreviated schedule first week of school to allow for more community-building within and among classes
  - Teachers felt they were able to learn more about the kids through the new orientation
  - Parents and kids were enthusiastic about the changes; BBQ helped reinforce the community feeling for incoming G6 families
- Jupiter grades
  - Parents had requested that Jupiter be kept open so parents/kids could see what was missing and react more quickly; unfortunately it seems it is not being utilized by the kids who stand to benefit, but more by the already super conscientious kid; the concern is that it's creating additional anxiety in those kids
  - Parents felt generally it was a benefit, helping students with agency and benefiting some students, even if it's not helping every student;
  - There is a process for reaching out to parents when homework/grades are slipping: teachers reach out to the student with the other teachers of that student looped in as well
  - EE to send another reminder this week for parents to check in as it's the middle of the marking period
  - On a related note, only eight parents in the school don't have email access
- CEP Goals
  - Each SLT member was sent an iPlan link to the entire 60 page CEP
  - iPlan metrics are from 2017-18 data b/c last year's data won't be available until late November
  - Discussion about disparities between the various reports on proficiency scores/percentages
  - Beyond the test score goals that are set by the state, what goals do we want to see added to the CEP? Previously the goals reflected the overall NYC school survey qualities in five different categories: Rigorous Instruction, Collaborative Teachers, Supportive Environment, Effective Leadership, Strong Family/Community Ties, and Trust
  - Questions:
    - What about equity? How do you measure equity? Is equity the same as participation? Participation in extracurricular activities, afterschool, early academy, etc? Because the kids who feel included will participate more; are our kids actively engaged?
    - Should we set goals for who applies to Booker T?
    - Should we focus more on the bridge program students who need to "level up" than on increasing the rest of the population from 90% to 91%?
    - Inclusivity questions are more based on families/parents, when it needs to focus on students themselves
  - Team to look at #s to develop recommendations: Liz McNulty, Sara Lichman, Andy Weinstein, Jacqueline Shannon, Laura Adams
- Honor Code and cheating

- In the past there was an honor code that was signed, but it apparently hasn't been done recently. Would such a process help support civics and ethics discussions?
- Currently, some teachers present the honor code as part of being an independent and responsible whole person; cheating is often a result of someone feeling lost or pressured
- Difference in perceptions: students feel that helping each other with homework is different from cheating on a test
- Is there a significant issue? While homework "cheating" is perceived by teachers to be pervasive, they report very few (two or three) per year cheat on a test
- The consequence is a zero on that test; should there be something more?
- Kids need support to preempt the likelihood of it happening
- Homework burden for 8th graders during HS tour season
  - EE already shares with teacher all the tours, tests, dates, etc that kids may be attending
  - Families need to decide for themselves how to prioritize tours/test prep with schoolwork and other commitments
- Students coming to school sick
- Field Trip Planning

### New Business

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### Coffee Rotation

- 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