

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

SLT Minutes

November 8, 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

Calendar of Dates

- 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

October 11, 2019 SLT Minutes were approved. The SLT Secretaries will send the final version to Joanne Giordano to be posted.

Agenda Discussions

- CEP Goals
 - Sub-committee met to discuss/clarify goals and metrics
 - Goal metrics are based on state scores (rather than city metrics)
 - Last category in metric column (“All Students”) is about attendance
- School Budget
 - Discussed the breakdown of the category totals from MyGalaxy
 - On the “Allocation Category Totals” page, “scheduled” refers to the portion of the “Allocated” column that has been assigned to a particular use
 - Each teachers’ salary shows up as an average of all teachers’ salaries
 - Personnel represent the bulk of the budget
 - TL (tax levy) money and PTA money is treated differently. TL can be spent as is while a percentage of PTA funds is taken by the city (this varies depending on what the money is going to be used for)
 - Money is allocated for each student in the school based on the services they need
 - We will need to return funds based on lower enrollment than projected
 - Current enrollment at 825; had projected 870 students
 - Comes to about \$150K-160K
 - Students were matched to fill our register; what happened was more students than expected did not come
 - Some of these students were 7th graders who left to go to 7-12 schools (in addition to students who went to Hunter, suburbs, etc.)
 - Next year we’re unlikely to have the same problem with the institution of a waiting list by the DOE
- Field trips
 - What logistical support is needed to give smaller groups (rather than a whole grade) a chance to take trips?
 - Question largely based on 6th grade trip to the Aquarium in the 2018-2019 school year
 - Already happening, but does pose challenges for some subjects more than others (e.g. Science teachers have 4 classes so taking only one class at a time can be somewhat unrealistic)
 - Teachers report needing parent support for chaperoning but not necessarily with planning
 - Teachers report planning trips with the curriculum in mind (tend not to take trips that don’t align with the curriculum)
 - Some concern about finding Math-related opportunities that closely align with the curriculum (though there may be opportunities at the Museum of Natural History)
 - What is the barrier to trips? Simple answer: Some teachers like it. Some teachers are less comfortable
- Gym and “down-time” opportunities for 8th graders
 - Can there be time built into the day to provide more “down time”?

- Balancing act between academic rigor and providing time to re-charge
 - Can't lengthen the day
 - Why did 8th grade get one fewer gym period? There wasn't enough space for all grades to have two periods a week (pooling, particularly with 3 classes at once, did NOT work)
 - Onus is on teachers to help manage time for mental and physical breaks
- Wellness Update
 - 11/22: facilitated discussion over lunch for teachers
 - Wellness Wednesdays: morning HR announcements about monthly wellness topic
 - Kindness is the topic for the first half of the month
 - Homelessness is the second half of the month
- By-law Review
 - Haven't been updated since 2016
 - Sub-committee will take up the task
- New Business
 - General updates
 - PT Conferences seemed successful
 - Open Jupiter Grades helped facilitate discussions
 - Gearing up for BT Day 11/15
 - School Quality Snapshot
 - Why do the numbers seem to yield different overall ratings in different categories? Unclear
 - What is the "Quality Review"? Based on a report from a two-day, in-school review every two years from an independent reviewer (not superintendent, etc)
 - Numbers are based on a low response rate
 - Should we be looking at SHSAT prep as an offering (eg. As an after school program)?
 - Used to do something similar (including preparation for state testing prep, especially for underperforming students)

Coffee Rotation

- 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