

Booker T. Washington Middle School 54

103 West 107th Street

New York, NY 10025

Phone: 212.678.2861

SLT Minutes

February 11, 2022

7:20 AM

SLT Members:

Core SLT Positions	Teacher Representatives	Parent Representatives
Elana Elster, Principal	Elizabeth McNulty (co-chair)	Andy Weinstein (co-chair)
Jose Beauvais, UFT rep	Erica Williams	Alexis Freeman
Lee Uehara, PTA Co-Pres	Kirby Mason	Erica Teasley Linnick
	Sara Lichtman	Karen Saltser
	Stefanie Cohen	Dimitra Koutsantoni
		Cat Travers
		Yael Swica

*Late

**Absent

Observers: Anne Pejovich, Marni Aarlev, Alison Gardy, Ann Kristin Lapidos, Larry Lee

The meeting was held in person.

Minutes: Minutes from the January meeting were approved, and will be sent to the PTA Corresponding Secretary for posting.

Agenda:

Principal's Update

- Report cards have gone out along with promotion in doubt letters to approximately 50 students to encourage them to take advantage of the academic support offerings.

Academic support expanded to Mon-Thurs. after school and certain evenings. Some difficulty getting families to agree to take advantage of the assistance.

- High school application update. Eighth graders are being supported during this time by eliminating homework and providing Early Academy assistance for application materials before the deadline of March 1st.
- Middle school admission process update, including that open houses started.
- Dr. Elster discussed that discipline has been a concern of some families as raised at a recent PTA meeting. A discussion ensued clarifying incidents of increased activity in hallways with reduced hallway staff as opposed to disciplinary issues, discussions with students regarding appropriate hallway etiquette, and meetings with the community liaison for school safety about other agents available to staff the building. A discussion ensued regarding efforts to secure additional school safety staff, as needed, including the hiring of 3 temporary staff.
- Dr. Elster next discussed protocols that she and the school follow in the event a parent or student does raise a complaint, noting that they have been effective at identifying when something happens, who is involved and issuing consequences. A discussion ensued, including a discussion of the challenging transition for students in general, and 6th graders in particular, and the support available to them and any family who has reached out.
- The discussion then turned to the issue of data privacy and the ability to protect student's emails, passwords and information and how that may be mitigated to the extent it may arise.

COVID Update

- Dr. Elster next turned to a COVID update, including changes in frequency of cases and expectations regarding whether there will be any protocol changes from DOE.

JupiterEd

- Dr. Elster then turned to a discussion of JupiterEd and the school's decision to take it down temporarily. An extensive discussion ensued regarding the history of the program and its use and the perspectives of administration, teachers, parents and students on the availability of access to the program, and best practices for use going forward.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.