

Booker T. Washington Middle School 54

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SLT Minutes

January 20, 2023
 7:20 AM

SLT Members:

Core SLT Positions	Teacher Representatives	Parent Representatives
Elana Elster, Principal	Sara Lichtman (co-chair)	Alexis Freeman (co-chair)
Jose Beauvais, UFT rep**	Erica Williams	Karen Saltser
Lee Uehara, PTA Co-Pres	Elizabeth McNulty	Janette Cardova
	Amanda Mersits (secretary)	Yael Swica
	Kyle Wilson	Randall Friedman
		Sofia Hubscher
		Dimitra Koutsantoni

*Late

**Absent

Observers: Anne Pejovich, Ann
 Kristin Lapidos, Emma Lapidos (8th
 grade student)

The meeting was held in person.

Agenda:**Approval of the Minutes from December**

- Minutes were approved.

Principal's Report

- Dr. Elster reported that she reviewed comments to the recently submitted CEP draft contributed by a Parent member last meeting and is available to discuss further
- Dr. Elster informed that a parent has objected to *This Book is Gay* being available at the school library. In response to the parent's request, Dr. Elster advised the parent of the DOE process for objecting to a library book: parent submits their request for review to the DOE Department of Libraries which has various parties (teachers, parents) read the book and opine whether it is permissible for the school to continue to carry the book. The Department of Library's decision will be applicable to the book only at the school where the objection is placed.

- Student in attendance at meeting spoke in support of maintaining the particular book in the MS54 library.

CEP

- SLT Parent member correlated this process for resolution of the library book complaint to the CEP goal for family and community engagement and processes for discussing issues and resolving concerns

PTA Report

- Attention to appropriate use of class lists by Class Parents: must use class lists for only class and school related announcements, in conformity with DOE and President's Council regulations and data privacy regulations. PTA to send reminder about appropriate parameters for Class Parents.
- Advertise February 2, 2023 benefit fundraiser/cocktail night, intended to be a modest winter event, benefit cocktail night; space accommodates 70 attendees, only half tickets sold so far.

New Business

- Best method to obtain feedback from 8th graders about high school experience to assist next year's 8th grade students in the process
- Question raised about grade scheduling order for lunch; discussed that formerly, 6th grade ate lunch first but teachers discovered hunger and concentration issues better addressed with 8th grade eating lunch first
- Periods decreased by one minute to allow for more time at end of day in homeroom, teacher-led modification to schedule
- Question about ELA curriculum; Dr. Elster will bring curriculum maps for next meeting

Future Schedule of Meetings

Feb 10, March 10, Monday April 3, May 12, June 2

Coffee Rotation

February – Sofia Hubscher

March – Dimitra Koutsantoni

April – Janette Cardova

May – Kyle Wilson

June – Dr. Elster