

**Booker T. Washington Middle School 54**

103 West 107<sup>th</sup> Street

New York, NY 10025

Phone: 212.678.2861

**SLT Minutes**

April 8, 2022

7:20 AM

**SLT Members:**

<b>Core SLT Positions</b>	<b>Teacher Representatives</b>	<b>Parent Representatives</b>
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	Karen Saltser
	Sara Lichtman	Dimitra Koutsantoni
	Stefanie Cohen	Yael Swica
		Cat Travers
		Erica Teasley Linnick**

\*Late

\*\*Absent

**Observers:** Marni Aarlev, Alison Gardy, Ann Kristin Lapidos

The meeting was held in person.

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

**Agenda:**

**Principal's Update**

- Grades are in for the marking period.
- Students in danger of not passing for the year have been offered extra support. Fewer kids than those contacted have taken advantage of extra support. They will

be attending summer school. We have 7 teachers including Nicole Miller (social worker) using the intervention money for after school and support.

- There seems to be a drop in the third marking period grades, especially from the 8th graders who are putting less effort in.
- Specialized high school admission information being sent out before break.

### **School Safety**

- Two recent disciplinary issues last week, in and out of the building. A discussion ensued, including disciplinary actions taken and that lack of boundaries, cell phones and group chats are contributing to the social challenges being seen among students in all schools.
- Head of safety and Superintendent visited last week. We're not getting any more safety agents. Only 8 have been assigned to Manhattan. There's a group of people who are coming in next Tuesday to help from the Manhattan field support to see how they can help with the families. Superintendent is encouraging involvement with Restorative Justice, an alternative to disciplinary measures. A discussion ensued.

### **SHSAT Prep (follow up)**

- Teachers are discussing curriculum and any modifications to address subjects on SHSAT. A session for 7th grade families with Ms. Mansell is scheduled.

### **Admissions Update**

- Chancellor and related press releases indicate that screens may not be off the table for future year admissions.
- Chancellor indicated support for G&T programs.
- Superintendents had to reapply for positions so there will be new superintendents starting on July 1st.
- Discussion regarding high school admissions, including that the lottery system precludes middle schools from assisting with students who do not receive desirable placements.

### **Planning for Next Year**

- Discussed increasing electives for next year and including new electives, but not being able to restore to pre-pandemic levels.
- The new Chinese teacher started this week.

### **Graduation Planning**

- Planning in process along with 8th grade graduation activities, which may include a yearbook signing party and class trip.
- Regents are the week before the end of school.

### **New Business**

- Discussion regarding use of funds in connection with the Restorative Justice initiative, whether families having difficulties be offered a confidential wellness visit, and SLT seats up for election for next year.