

SLT Minute 2025 04 07 approved May 5, 2025



## **School Leadership Team**

### **School Leadership Team Minutes**

**Monday, April 7, 2025**

#### **Attendance**

##### **Core Members:**

IA Principal Christina Canty (present)

UFT Chapter Chair Melanie Pflaum (present)

PTA Co-President: Ursula Schindler (present)

##### **CBO Bard College:**

Valerie Thomson (present)

##### **UFT Members:**

Kyung Cho (present)

Ryan Vera (present)

Annie Shields (present)

##### **Parents:**

##### **Yr II (Early College)**

Primary: Cindy Hsiao (present)

Alternate: Rosemarie Bray (present)

##### **Yr I (Early College)**

**Primary:** Marie Edesess (Present)

**Alternate:** Todd Stevens (absent)

##### **10th Grade**

**Primary:** Miri Navasky (present)

**Alternate:** Kay Moffett (absent)

**9th Grade**

**Primary:** Abhijit Sengupta (present)

**Alternate:** Deborah Levitzky (absent)

**Students:**

**Yr II**

**Primary:** Sahir Subhi (absent)

Alternate: None

**Yr I**

Primary: Ivy Laidlaw-Morris (present)

Alternate: Wyatt Shone (absent)

**10th Grade:**

Primary: Clarke Greene (present)

Alternate: Manni Chen (absent)

**9th Grade:**

Primary: Dallas Chrisiaanse (present)

Alternate: Sumaiya Mobarak (absent)

**Guests:**

**Parent Coordinator Carol Turitz**

**UFT teacher: Steven Mazie**

**Agenda**

1. Approve minutes from September - February (<5 minutes)
2. Approve minutes from March(<5 minutes)
3. Student Report (5-10 minutes)
4. Parent Report (10 minutes)
5. Faculty Report (5-10 minutes)
6. Administrative Report (5 minutes)
7. Continue CEP work (Break into groups for about 5-10 minutes, then reconvene for approx. 20 minutes)
8. Continue Budget Review (20 minutes)

9. New business/Unfinished business (any remaining time)
  - From last session: SLT training? How do we make this happen
  - More discussion about clubs (robust discussion happening on whatsapp)
  - More robust discussion of Advisory to be had

## **School Leadership Team Minutes**

**Monday April 7, 2025**

Minutes taken by Miri Navasky

### **(1&2) Minutes**

Minutes from February and March meetings were approved. The SLT must comply with Open Meeting Law regarding timely notification of meetings, timely posting of agendas before meetings and minutes after the meetings. The updated webpage is live and SLT chairs can post this year's minutes and agendas can be posted (in a PDF format so they cannot be modified).

### **(3) Student Report (5-10 minutes)**

Students are concerned about messiness in the cafeteria and bathroom. SLT discussed how to effectively problem solve regarding this recurring problem. Need for more schoolwide town halls was discussed. Would it be impactful for students to hear directly from the staff who has to clean the messes in the bathroom about the impact it has on their already very labor intensive job? Would this create positive peer pressure to identify the kids who are being destructive and engage the kids meaningfully to stop the behavior. How can Advisory be an effective tool for community issues? Could members of the SU visit each advisory and bring up this concern? Agreement that the bathrooms need to be safe for everyone.

### **(4) Parent Report (10 minutes)**

PTA President reports plans for upcoming 4/24 Bard Bash and Silent Auction. Fundraising has slowed down and the event needs to make \$10,000. How can we get faculty to come and contribute experiences for the auction? Currently, 13% of families contribute 100% of the giving. How can we improve the rate of participation in fundraising? Current donated items include: coach Bags, sports tickets (Knicks, Liberty, Redbulls), dinner with Val, Carnegie Hall tickets. Annie and Melanie will reach out to teachers about donating their time for auction experiences.

SLT made suggestions about next year including community events earlier in the year and more frequently, community events that are not fundraisers.

### **(5) Faculty Report (5-10 minutes)**

Chapter chair reports an increase in communication in Chapter Meetings and Steering Committees. This is a positive development.

- Bathrooms/Door Opened/Locked/Leave open

Steering still discussing the state of the bathrooms. Some discussion about locking them. Others think bathroom doors should be left open. Yet to be determined. But all thinking about bathrooms.

- Faculty Handbook.

Handbook hasn't been updated in a really long time, but starting to work on that.

- Stem Meeting and Special Ed meeting planning to have them.

Following up w/thoughts on Bathrooms. Teachers feel it's too complicated having teachers use the same bathrooms as students.

Various recommendations (1) Custodial staff speaking out about what they have to do. What it feels like. (2) Carol recommended a Town Hall to discuss this on a larger issue as it's not only the bathrooms. It's the cafeteria, the fields, the hallways. Maybe instead of a dean hour? During lunch period? Bathroom Monitors - we are headed in that direction.

## **(6) Administrative Report**

THE EMAIL. Dumaine laid out a long term plan for the school. Val wanted to stay a year initially, but then wanted to stay for the long run and now will stay for a year to be the Principal's advisor. Everyone is enthusiastic about the current arrangement. Val is happy to help and then to go back to BIO research. Brian Pew will likely be the new principal. He was interviewed by Leon Botstein and Dumaine Williams and they liked him.

Thankful for Val being the principal for this recovery year.

BHSEC/Bard College is supporting people in leadership programs.

Not a sad thing because we will ensure a smooth transition.

Question: to what extent was the leadership team in on these decisions? Did they know this was going to happen? Are people happy with the way this happened?

We could not be aware of the procedure.

What is the timing for having a principal and then a SPED AP.

Following the by-laws has allowed us to change.

## **(7) Continue CEP work**

Completing the CEP is the mandated SLT mission. There are only 2 meetings left and the SLT needs a plan to complete this work. The CEP has 5 priorities, each with several goals. The SLT has been divided into sub committees that will review the current goals of each priority and make suggestions for next year's CEP. The SLT decided that each sub committees will meet before the May meeting and work to develop new proposed goals.

## **(8) Continue Budget Review**

Time ran out. This needs to be addressed in future meetings.

## **(9) New business/Unfinished business**

- a. The SLT needs to continue its mandated work to review the school budget.
- b. A meaningful examination of the current advisory program with proposals for enriching and maximizing the experience.

**NOTE: Do the TRAINING BELOW and finish it by next meeting:**

\*\*\*\*\*Can we really embrace the timekeeper for future meetings and assign times to the agenda items? We only have a few meetings scheduled before the end of the year and have not completed work for the CEP (or the mandated training). This suggests that we might need to schedule additional meetings to accomplish our CEP mandate. I suggest scheduling additional meetings and canceling them if we are able to get the CEP reviewed and the budget evaluated in terms of the CEP goals.

>>> SLT training notes from Rosangela Valdez (pro-tip to play this at accelerated speed):

**Required Annual School Leadership Team (SLT) Training:**

As per [Section 100.11 - Participation of parents and teachers in school-based planning and shared decisionmaking.pdf](#) and Chancellor's Regulation [A-655](#), all schools and districts must engage in school-based planning and shared decision-making to improve the academic performance of all students. In order to support new and continuing school leadership team (SLT) members in implementing these requirements, the DOE has developed a [pre-recorded webinar](#) and accompanying [deck](#) on SLT and district leadership team (DLT) roles and responsibilities. The webinar includes the following topics: SLT/DLT membership roles and responsibilities; CEP development and school-based budgeting; SLT-related requirements for Title I schools; best practices; and resources and support for effective SLT/DLT operations. Collective viewing of the pre-recorded webinar will count towards the required annual SLT training for SLT member remuneration purposes (review this [SLT Remuneration Form.pdf](#)). Also note that the [School Leadership Team \(SLT\) Monthly Calendar](#) has been revised to address the required monthly actions SLTs should engage in to ensure consultation and collaboration occurs with all stakeholders.

Review and complete the activities below:

- Principals and SLT members must view the pre-recorded webinar together and discuss these sample [SLT Webinar Guiding Questions Winter 24.pdf](#) during their February or March SLT meeting.