

**SLT Minutes**  
**January 16, 2015**  
**Final**

**Staff Present:** Heidi Bookman, Eileen Fallon, Dana Roth, Deborah VanDoren

**Parents Present:** Rachel Stack, Tyndall Arrasmith, Marie Edesess, Dempsey Rice

**Guests:** Carolyn Dorsen, Christine Napolitan, Alison Koziel, Denise Watson-Adin

**(1) Call to Order:**

- Co-Chair Rachel Stack called meeting to order.

**(2) Review of Minutes**

- Members reviewed minutes from 12.19 meeting. Revisions requested. Minutes Approved pending revisions.

**(3) Old Business #1 Title 1 Parent Involvement**

- Title 1 Representative to the PTA attended the meeting to provide an update on the status of the plan for the funds for Title 1 Parent Involvement
- A total of 177 surveys were collected. There was no clear consensus among the surveys. However, several themes emerged. These included interest in spending the money on: literacy, math and science workshops for families, text alert systems, increasing the support for the middle school application process, workshops on cultural diversity and technology.
- Proposal was made to use the money in more than 1 area.
  1. Support for Middle School Process- There were several ideas related to this topic including paying for buses to take entire classes on school tours,

**SLT Minutes**  
**February 13, 2015**  
**Draft**

**Staff Present:** Heidi Bookman, Eileen Fallon, Dana Roth, Deborah VanDoren, Ralph DaLonzo

**Parents Present:** Rachel Stack, Ali Hodin-Baier, Alison Milgrom, Marie Edesess, Dempsey Rice

**Guests:** Christine Napolitan, Alison Koziel, Denise Watson-Adin

**(1) Call to Order:**

- Co-Chair Rachel Stack called meeting to order.

**(2) Review of Minutes**

- Members reviewed minutes from 01.30 meeting. Minutes approved.

**(3) Old Business: Saturday School Update**

- Concern was raised about the time given to families to plan for participation in Saturday School. Administration explained that the communication they receive from central does not allow for more advanced notification to families and staff.

**(4) Issue #1: PS 10 Response to Cuomo's Education Policy**

- Teachers reported back to SLT re: An educational forum they attended with updates about Cuomo's budget with regard to public education. Jim Brennan and other local officials were at the meeting, which was very well attended.
- The result of the meeting was the suggestion that each school develop its own plan to educate their families, students and staff about the potential impact of the Governor's educational proposals ASAP. The budget will take effect April 1st. The harmful effects of the proposals will take effect immediately. Therefore, spreading the information is urgent.
- Charter schools are asking for an increase in the amount of money they are given by the state for each child, up to \$14,000 per child.

Policy would allow the charter schools to keep this money for students who have been asked to leave the school.

- The proposed teacher evaluation policy will make it hard for teachers to work in areas of poverty. As a result, schools in poorer neighborhoods will be more likely to fail and this will make room additional charter schools, some of whom are fundraising for the Governor's presidential campaign.
- The Governor has written his education proposals into the budget in a way that the State Legislature must reject the entire budget in order to reject the proposals. Cuomo's hope is that the Legislature will be unwilling to reject the budget thereby shutting down the State in order to stand up for schools.
- How can we get the word out to our community and mobilize a response so that our Legislative representatives know they have enough support to protect our teachers and our schools?
- The proposed teacher evaluation plan is particularly destructive. 50% of every teacher's evaluation score will be based on the student performance on the state tests. An outside evaluator who will come to the school will decide an additional 35% of the score. On 15% of the score will be determined by the educational leadership of the school.
- Brooklyn New School has written a letter to families calling for a response. This letter was shared at the meeting. It was decided that the SLT would draft a letter for our community ASAP. Letter will be sent home in backpacks and distributed via Newsflash.
- PS 10 Rocks is a large community event happening on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. It was decided that SLT would have a table of information at this event with letters for families to sign and send and ways for children to send postcards. Suggestion was made that Jim Brennan be invited to attend.
- Suggestion was made to plan an early morning Town Hall Meeting as soon as possible to spread the word and mobilize a response.
- Other schools have a PAC, Parent Action committee to help educate and mobilize the community regarding important issues affecting our schools. How can we start a similar group at PS10?
- There is date in March scheduled for people to travel to Albany to support teacher and public schools. Can we mobilize members of our community to participate in this important day?

- **Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, February 27 2015**
- **Meeting Adjourned**

**SLT Minutes**  
**March 13, 2015**  
**Draft**

**Staff Present:** Laura Scott, Heidi Bookman, Eileen Fallon, Dana Roth, Deborah VanDoren, Ralph DaLonzo, Gloria Chico-Perez, Eileen Fallon,

**Parents Present:** Rachel Stack, Ali Hodin-Baier, Tyndall Arrasmith, Alison Milgrom, Marie Edesess, Dempsey Rice

**Guests:** Alison Koziel, Denise Watson-Adin, Amy Schwartzman,

**(1) Call to Order:**

- Co-Chair Rachel Stack called meeting to order.

**(2) Review of Minutes**

- Members reviewed minutes from 02.27 meeting. Minutes approved.

**(4) Issue #1: PS 10 Response to Cuomo's Education Policy**

- While the school action held at PS 10 was well attended and very successful, the coverage of the action was distorted and represented the parents at our school as being co-opted by the union.
- The parent team who organized the action will respond to the media acting for corrections/retractions of inaccurate data, including the claim that the movement against Cuomo is only a middle class movement.
- Important to continue to use social media to get the message out
- Important to now focus on impacting the process in Albany. He Assembly has voted down the budget and the Senate seems to be the sticking point.
- Concerns to continue to pres on include: will the tax credit proposal divert money from the public schools?, what will the new cap on charter schools be? , and tenure.
- What are the best ways to mobilize our families? Suggestions included: phone scripts or phone parties to pressure officials in Albany, letters to the education chairs in the state assembly and senate, direct responses to media regarding the false reporting, plan

for trip to Albany to deliver letters from our school and any other sister schools who would like their letters delivered.

**(5) Issue #2: Parent Handbook Edits**

- It was decided that this topic would be postponed to a meeting when it can be the primary focus. Maybe a subcommittee could look at the handbook first and make suggestions to the larger group.

**(6) Issue #3: Bed Bugs**

- A few bugs have been found in the school. The administration reports that they have dealt with this problem in the past and are experienced at managing it. The bugs need to be sent out to a lab for verification and the DOE will send a team to treat the room. Families in the classrooms have been notified.

**(7) Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, March 27 2015**

**(8) Meeting Adjourned**

**SLT Minutes**  
**March 27, 2015**  
**Draft**

**Staff Present:** Laura Scott, Heidi Bookman, Eileen Fallon, Dana Roth, Deborah VanDoren, Ralph DaLonzo, Gloria Chico-Perez, Eileen Fallon,

**Parents Present:** Rachel Stack, Ali Hodin-Baier, Tyndall Arrasmith, Alison Milgrom, Marie Edesess, Dempsey Rice

**Guests:** Alison Koziel, Denise Watson-Adin, Amy Schwartzman,

**(1) Call to Order:**

- Co-Chair Rachel Stack called meeting to order.

**(2) Review of Minutes**

- Members reviewed minutes from 03.13 meeting. Minutes approved.

**(4) Issue #1: PS 10 Response to Cuomo's Education Policy**

- Cuomo approval rating sunk to 20%. It appears that the parent action have made a significant difference.
- Follow up is planned including thank you notes to the politicians who were receptive and responsive.
- Upcoming rally on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. Families to meet in the schoolyard at 10:15. Parents are asked to wear green.
- Word from Albany is that the cap will remain on charter schools, the teacher evaluation piece remains unclear and there is no word on the money owed as a result of the campaign for fiscal equity.
- Actions to be taken include: making calls to republican senators, begin to plan and think federally in terms of next steps to take.

**(5) Issue #2: Opting Out of Tests**

- Teachers cannot speak to parents directly.
- School is asking parents to make the best choice for their child based on what they know.
- Administration will provide educational accommodations for students who are not taking the test.

**(6) Issue #3: Title 1**

- The deadline for the money to be allocated is April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- \$6000 has been used to cover the costs including: the school messenger system, 2 Mac books for parent use, copy paper to send notices home
- There is a need to look at the process of the Title 1 parent committee at our school. It has been an ongoing challenge to get decisions about the funding in a timely fashion.
- Suggestion was made to elect a Title 1 representative earlier in the year.

**(7) Issue #4 Parent Handbook Edits**

- Changes were suggested and reviewed in the areas including: academic intervention, cell phones at school, technology, ARIS, attendance and lateness policies.
- A particular emphasis was put on clarifying the issues of lateness and the need to document all absences.

**(8) Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, April 17, 2015**

**(9) Meeting Adjourned**



**SLT Minutes**  
**May 1, 2015**  
**Draft**

**Staff Present:** Laura Scott, Heidi Bookman, Dana Roth, Deborah VanDoren, Ralph DaLonzo

**Parents Present:** Ali Hodin-Baier, Marie Edesess, Dempsey Rice, Velma McKenzie, Alison Milgrom

**Guests:** Alison Koziel, Denise Watson-Adin, Christine Napolitan, Mim Ingerson

**(1) Call to Order:**

- Co-Chair Rachel Stack called meeting to order.

**(2) Review of Minutes**

- Members reviewed minutes from 04.17 meeting. Minutes approved.

**(4) May 13- End of Year Parent Teacher event**

- The new contract requires a 4th parent teacher event at the end of the year
- The format of this event does not have to be a traditional parent –teacher conference. In fact, the faculty and staff feel that traditional conferences are not needed at this time.
- Teachers have been using the parent engagement time built into their schedules to meet with families of students about whom they have concerns.
- Faculty and staff have decided to use this event to help families look towards next year. The event will provide the opportunity for families to hear from cluster teachers about curriculum and meet with their current teachers in a group to hear about what they can expect next year for their child. There will likely be a time for coffee and faculty/ family interaction.
- Concerns include being very mindful of the timing of the different aspects of the event so as to respect the realities of working families and not burden the teaching staff with clean up very late in the evening.

- The format of the event requires an SBO and a vote.

**(5) CEP**

- It was decided that the CEP would be looked at in a future meeting in order to plan for next year.

**(6) Title 1 Parent Resource Center**

- Some of the funding from Title 1 is being used to set up a resource center for families in the library.
- Questions were raised as to how families will be made aware of the Resource Center and how to use it.
- Invitation was made to suggest titles of books that might be useful for this resource center.

**(7) Update on Class Size**

- Administration reported that our school's class sizes are slightly larger than some sister schools.
- In part, this is due to the families from unsuccessful schools who request to come to PS 10. PS 10 is more likely to get these requests than other successful sister schools because of the diversity of our community.

**(8) Assemblyman Jim Brennan Meeting on May 21<sup>st</sup> re. Concerns about testing and teacher evaluations.**

- This very important meeting will follow the PTA meeting. The PTA meeting has been moved earlier to accommodate both events.

**(9) Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, May 8, 2015**

**(10) Meeting Adjourned**

planning a family information session with translation services early this spring.

2. Math workshops for families. The PTA approved to provide money to fund a workshop for K-2 during the state tests. The workshop would take place at K280 so that the kids can be out of the building while the testing is going on.
  3. Technology- the money could be used for a computer terminal available to all families.
  4. Workshops specifically addressing un-learning racism.
  5. Plan for money must be formalized by the end of the month. The Title 1 committee will meet to find out about vendors and pricing for the proposals and make its recommendation. Follow up is needed in this area.
- This conversation brought up several topics that need follow up attention.
    1. Attendance Policy- The ways that middle schools are using attendance for admissions is constantly changing. The suggestion was made that we clarify the attendance policy at PS 10 for all our families. Specifically, this means letting families know about the need for written letters in support of absence, requests to change mistakes in attendance can only be made during the school year in which those absences occurred etc.
    2. Testing Communication- It was raised that the SLT should ensure that we are communicating with families re. upcoming state tests in an effort to minimize anxiety. The way that tests are being used is constantly changing and we need to make an effort to keep families in the loop when possible. Also- what are the plans re. test prep this year given the change in the school day and the loss of morning school. Do we plan a town hall? Etc.

#### **(4) Issue 1 CEP**

- The CEP is complete for the time being. It will be re-visited as needed.

**(5) Issue 2: Tuesday Parent Engagement Time**

- Reviewed email forwarded from CPAC NYC re. uses of parent engagement time.
- Many of the suggested practices are already in place at PS 10.
- Suggestion was made to share the document with the staff to see if any of the ideas appeal to them.

**(6) Issue 3: AIS Teachers**

- Administration reports that they have found teachers for all the needed spots and that academic intervention is in place in all the grades.
- 
- **Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, January 30 2015**
  - **Meeting Adjourned**

**SLT Minutes**  
**April 17 2015**  
**Draft**

**Staff Present:** Laura Scott, Heidi Bookman, Dana Roth, Deborah VanDoren, Ralph DaLonzo

**Parents Present:** Rachel Stack, Marie Edesess, Dempsey Rice, Velma McKenzie

**Guests:** Alison Koziel, Denise Watson-Adin, Christine Napolitan

**(1) Call to Order:**

- Co-Chair Rachel Stack called meeting to order.

**(2) Review of Minutes**

- Members reviewed minutes from 03.27 meeting. Minutes approved.

**(4) Issue #1: Review of Capital Improvements**

- Bathrooms-Work on the girl's first floor bathroom is complete. Work on boy's first floor bathroom has begun. Electrical work is being completed to allow for hand dryers in the bathroom to eliminate the need for paper towels.
- Air Conditioning- Electrical work on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor is being completed. PTA has ordered the AC units. Rooms may be cooled by June!
- Computer Room- All the wiring etc that is needed to relocate the computer room to RM. 214 will be completed before the summer. There may be some disruption of computer classes during this time.
- Auditorium- The school construction authority has not yet received the money promised to PS 10 for this project. It is not completely clear what the cause of the delay. It was decided that Administration would send a letter to the Borough President's representative in charge of the distribution of funds.

**(5) Issue #2: Scheduling of SLT Meetings**

- In May the meeting schedule will be: May 1, May 8, May 22, May 29
- In June the meeting schedule will be: June 12th

**(6) Issue #3: Elections**

- There is the need for a parent representative for SLT for next year
- There is a need for a teacher representative for next year.

**(7) Issue #4 Budget**

- Update was provided on the on-going process of the State Budget and the Federal changes. NCLB was not renewed and the new Federal legislation shifts the standard setting to individual states. The union will need to negotiate with the NYS Board of Regents as a result. There is likely to be a change in the terms of tenure and the approach to schools that are identified as struggling.

**(8) Next Meeting Scheduled for Friday, May 1, 2015**

**(9) Meeting Adjourned**

**SLT Minutes**  
**October 7, 2015**  
**Final**

**Members:** Tyndall Arrasmith, Heidi Bookman, Gloria Chico-Perez, Marie Edesess, Eileen Fallon, Ali Hodin-Baier (by phone), Mim Ingvarson, Allison Milgrom, Dempsey Rice, Laura Scott, Deborah Van Doren, Shannon McCloskey, Guiliana Reitzfeld

**Guests:** RoseAnn Ciarlante, Deandra Henderson, Dana Roth, Gabriel Feldberg, Lara Dicus, Rachel Meltzer, Christine Napolitan

- (1) Call to Order- Chair Dempsey Rice called the meeting to order
- (2) Review and Approval of Minutes- Minutes from 9.25.15 were reviewed and approved.
- (3) Meeting Dates for 2015-2016 reviewed and approved.
- (4) Contact List for SLT members reviewed and approved.
- (5) Class size:
  - Parent representatives reported on-going and growing concern among families regarding the large class sizes at PS 10. Parents shared that there are rumors, misinformation and incomplete information afoot regarding the reasons for the large class sizes at PS 10.
  - The administration clarified some of the very complex factors behind the large classes.
    1. A NYCDOE program called Public School Choice means that children who are in schools which are not in good standing have the right to a place in a school listed in good standing. PS 10 is a school in good standing and is not permitted to turn away students sent as a result of the School Choice Program.
    2. PS 10 has more diversity than many other schools in good standing in our district and as a result is often chosen by families in the School Choice program who want their kids to be in a building with students and adults who look like them.
    3. Even though our status as a Title 1 school would mean NYCDOE's utilization formula would consider classes

in grades 1-5 full with 29 students, the Public School Choice program can seat up to 31 students in a class.

4. The UFT contract also allows a class size of 32 in grades 1-5.
  5. There is overcrowding as a problem in District 15..
  6. There is a line in many school budgets for "class size reduction" funding. Public School Choice can override class reduction efforts that involve having fewer students per class. (Class reduction funding can be used for hiring to improve the teacher-student ratios.) More clarification is needed for families on the impact of this budget line. Do we have this budget line at PS 10?
  7. Administration reports that best approach to class size issue is:
    - Improving the teacher/student ratio by increasing the support of AIS (Academic Intervention Specialist) teachers. The PTA funds many of these teachers
    - Staff Development to support a pedagogy that increases the interaction between teachers and individual students including group work, conferencing etc. and minimizes teacher centered direct instruction
  8. How can this important information be meaningfully disseminated to larger parent community?
    - PTA will place the topic on its agenda
    - Administration will write a statement to distribute in folders and post on the website.
    - **Further action/follow up needed?**
- (6) Lice Checks- Lice checks have been scheduled. Date will not be released in order to maximize the effectiveness of the lice check.
- (7) Topics to be addressed at the next SLT include:
- Update on Middle School subcommittee
  - Communication to families about the ICT program
- (8) C30 Process- Let the minutes reflect that Gabriel Feldberg was not in the room for this discussion.



- There are 2 itinerant AP positions: the upper grade AP at PS 10 and the AP at K280.
- A date needs to be set for the first meeting in which a subsequent date will be decided, selection criteria developed and questions chosen.
- 4-7 parents are needed.
- At the second meeting, interviews will be held. Four applicants must be interviewed for each position.

(9) Communication with Families- Question was raised about how families in our community can reach out to SLT. Several strategies will be used:

- SLT email will be distributed via Newsblast and listed on the website
- SLT mailbox in the office will be publicized for families who would like to contact SLT anonymously
- Paper to be sent home in the folders in English and Spanish reiterating above.

(10) Meeting Adjourned