



THE JESSE OWENS SCHOOL ~ P.S. 26
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Diana Collazo-Funtleyder, Principal

Nola Spence, Assistant Principal

SCHOOL LEADERSHIP TEAM (SLT) MINUTES

December 10, 2024

<u>TOPIC</u>	<u>ROLES</u>
School Leadership Team	Chairperson: Simon Moss Note taker: Kristine Kirton Time Keeper: Sam Posner
MEETING OBJECTIVES: 1. Last meeting minutes 2. Guests - Brendan T. Mims, Superintendent, and NeQuan McLean, District 16 Community Education Council President (background on CEC role here) 3. Updates a. UFT Update b. PTA Update 4. Principal's Update - Staffing, Budget & Progress against CEP Goals 5. Class Size Reduction Plan 6. Discussion Items a. Implications of incoming Administration on community new migrant families b. Listening Sessions with Spanish speaking families c. Use of Jesse Owens Park d. Accessing Afterschool Funding for Future Years 7. Any other business	

MINUTES

Call to Order

- The monthly meeting of the School Leadership Team at P.S. 26 was called to order on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 3:05pm.

Present

- 14 participants were in attendance:

Diana Collazo-Funtleyder (Principal)

Simon Moss (Chairperson)

Kristine Kirton (UFT)

Lisa Donlan (Community School Director)

Shahla Jabeen (Parent/Guardian)

Maxx Luddy (Reading Coach)

NeQuan McLean (President, CEC District 16)

Camelia Brogdon-Cruz (Family Leadership Coordinator)

Jessica Jones (Parent Coordinator)

Sam Posner (PTA President)

Jacqueline McCurdy-Boyce (UFT)

Doris Jean (Parent/Guardian)

Maria Labruzzo (Parent/Guardian)

Brendan Mims (Superintendent)

Reading and Approval of the SLT minutes on November 12, 2024.

- The minutes from the previous meeting on November 12, 2024 were approved.

Guests

- Introduction by Doris Jean: Doris Jean and Sam Posner met with NeQuan McLean, Community Education Council District 16 President, around after school/ Department of Youth and Community Development, DYCD, funding. Currently, most of the funding that is used through The Leadership Program is going to after school programming. Other schools have DYCD funding and community school funding, and P.S. 26 wants to obtain both as well.

NeQuan McLean, Community Education Council District 16 President:

- Candance Belle is P.S. 26's CEC representative. The CEC is made up of 12 members. For more information regarding Community Education Council 16, its history, news articles and more, visit <https://www.cec16.org/>
- Afterschool is a part of one of the pillars for community schools. At P.S. 26, all of the funding allocated for community schools is being directed to support the afterschool program.
- In 2022, the New York State Education Department awarded a 21st Century grant. When the grant opened for afterschool, several schools in the district applied, but only certain schools met the required rubric, and P.S. 26 did not qualify. McLean worked with the previous superintendent to contact the state for clarification and requested an appeal. The state responded with an explanation for the decision. Subsequently, McLean collaborated with the Department of Education, and all the schools that were initially ineligible for

the funding received support from other sources. Regarding afterschool funding, the majority comes from the Department of Youth and Community Development (DYCD).

- There was a big initiative under DeBlasio to make sure that all middle schools have after school programs. Every middle school has an afterschool program that is funded by DYCD. Continue to monitor websites to apply for funding. CEC pushed for all of district 16 schools to become a community school. McLean stated that every grant has a different rubric. Different organizations offer various grants, and P.S. 26 can explore how to apply for these opportunities. Once the district knows about a grant, they inform the schools. Sub-committee can be formed.
- Currently P.S. 26 doesn't have any upcoming capital projects.

Superintendent Mims:

- How can we maximize our community school model? How can we get additional funding for afterschool?
- Knowing elected officials is valuable and important; understand their priorities and the types of initiatives they fund. When meeting with elected officials, be clear about what you need. The SLT can partner with local organizations. NYC Reads- a way of life.
- CEC meetings are held once a month.
- Doris Jean gave a testimony and advocated for P.S. 26.
- Superintendent Mims doesn't disburse grant money/grants across the district.
- In New York City Public Schools, funding for schools is provided through school-based funding, per capita allocation, and the Fair Student Funding (FSF) formula. On the district level, they advocate for district wide programs, such as My Brother's Keeper (MBK) | My Sister's Keeper (MSK).
- Superintendent Mims was able to work with elected officials to get technology upgrades for schools.



Brendan Mims to Everyone 15:24

1. District 16 Website- @d16leads (Instagram)

[https://www.d16leads.com/District 16 Brooklyn NYCPS - Educational Excellence and Innovation](https://www.d16leads.com/District%2016%20Brooklyn%20NYCPS%20Educational%20Excellence%20and%20Innovation)

www.d16leads.com

2. NYC Reads Parent partnership toolkit

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gnTQ1HmBbcz-0VE0ktmoZPTaP-9SuPU/view>
NYC Reads Parent Ambassador Training
https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=tyxJGEXvYUWfcQxCSfesB1NaR-hdjmIPuIX8mrR_fhRUM1FKMzE3MillNkc1SUNFMVkvzTkiPSDgxMy4u&route=shorturl

1. CEC Election information

<https://www.schools.nyc.gov/get-involved/families/Community-and-citywide-education-councils-cecs/elections-2025-community-and-citywide-education-councils>
Elections 2025 Community and Citywide Education Councils
Elections 2025 Community and Citywide Education Councils
www.schools.nyc.gov

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Committee Reports

UFT

- According to New York City Public Schools, the law “requires that New York City Public Schools reduce actual class sizes as follows: K-3: 20 students/class, 4-8: 23 students/class, PE and performing groups: 40 students/class.”
- “Reduction must begin in the school year 2023/2024, with 20% of classes in compliance; threshold increases by 20% each school year to reach 100% compliance by the school year 2027/2028.”
- Schools who need extra funding to comply can request funding, but P.S. 26 already has small class sizes.
- “Bring Joy to a Child by Donating a Toy” - Donate a new, unwrapped toy for children. Individuals can donate with PayPal, drop off their donations at one of UFT’s borough offices or during the Delegate Assembly in December.
- The DOE released policy updates for NYC Reads. [NYC Reads](#)

PTA

- The Multicultural Feast was meaningful and enjoyable.
- Thanksgiving Food Drive: Five hundred dollars was raised and 30 food bags were created and given to families.
- Scholastic Book Fair: Over \$3,000.00 in sales. One-third of the sales will be credit for the school. The credit can be used to benefit the children in the school. The PTA was able to provide a book to the children who did not receive one during the book fair. (70 books in total).
- A bake sale will take place during the Winter Wonderland assembly on December 19, 2024.
- Spanish speaking families were able to participate in P.S. 26’s listening sessions. Twelve families attended between both sessions, and Ms. Leek and Ms. Torres supported. During these sessions, families can share their thoughts and/or concerns about various topics. Principal Funtleyder wants to expand the listening session to other parents.
- Ideas on how parents can visit the school and create a sense of connection to the classroom: Possible Open House Curriculum Night
- All the holiday pictures arrived.
- Money has been allocated to support field trips. Each class will be able to receive \$250.00.

Discussion of Unfinished Business Agenda Items

- Staffing Update:
- There is currently a vacancy in the 5th grade for a special education teacher. Although a candidate had been vetted and was scheduled to start, they recently rescinded the offer. In response, a plan has been developed to ensure that the needs of students are met. P.S. 26 will collaborate with a D75 school, where two of their special education

teachers will provide instruction in English and Math. Additionally, Mr. Luddy will provide support through push-in services.

- The Jesse Owens Playground:
A meeting was held with Superintendent Mims to discuss closing the Jesse Owens playground during school hours to ensure that students have access to the playground throughout the school day. Superintendent Mims connected Principal Funtleyder to other principals in this district that have similar scenarios. These principals have the ability to reserve the playground and close it for school use during designated hours. Additionally, Principal Funtleyder connected with a Parks Department supervisor who provided her with a waiver code. This code allows her to apply for a parks permit as if it were an event, with the event date covering the entire school year. P.S. 26 successfully obtained a waiver code and submitted a request for the entire school year. The request is now under review and awaiting approval. If approved, P.S. 26 will follow children to staff ratio guidelines. The custodial staff will be responsible for securing and locking the playground during non-school hours.
- Ms. Martinez will follow up with Swim for Life, “a water safety program offered to New York City's public school second graders.

Discussion of New Business Agenda Items

- Class Size Reduction Plan:
There is a 40% citywide compliance expectation. Principal Funtleyder stated that P.S. 26 is 100% in compliance with reduced class sizes. Principal Funtleyder will continue to have the conversation if there is a need for additional classes to be open, and to add additional teachers.
- Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) Goals:
Section 5 of the CEP - Creating a school environment that is inclusive. By the end of the 2024/2025 school year, the goal is to foster a more inclusive environment, partnering with companies like RISE, LERU Multi Service Agency. The goal is to have 90% of families respond to the survey, and 80% of children to show improvement in social-emotional learning skills.
- The Learning Environment Survey from the last school year received a 47% response rate from families. The goal is to increase participation, and it is recommended that incentives will be offered towards the children, which can encourage more families to complete the survey, which will begin around March.
- P.S. 26 is coordinating a track team for the Spring.
- Lisa Donlan- The Office of Community Schools is bringing back the Assets and Needs assessment. Are we using the assets to the maximum capacity?

Creation of Agenda for the Next Meeting

- Comprehensive Educational Plan (CEP) Goals
- Listening Sessions with the school population

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00pm.

Brendan Mims to [Everyone](#) 15:24



1. District 16 Website- @d16leads
(Instagram)