

# PS 20 SLT 2022-23

## Overview

### Members

- Lena Barbera (Principal)
- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)
- Zainab Abedin (Parent, )
- Henry Greenidge (Parent, )
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)

### Tentative Meeting Dates (Last Monday of the Month, 5pm via Zoom unless noted)

- September 19th
- October 24th (Reschedule to November 7th)
- November 21st
- December 19th
- January 30th
- February 27th
- March 27th
- April 24th
- May 22nd
- June 12th

### SLT Roles:

- Chairperson/ Co-Chairs: Sara & Margo
- Secretary (Attendance and Minutes Keeper):
- Timekeeper (Remuneration forms):

# SLT September Meeting

September 19th 5-6pm

Attendance

Proposed Agenda

- Review the Membership & Roles
- Schedule the 2022-23 Meeting Dates
- Review the SLT By-laws
- Create an SLT Mission Statement for 2022-23

Notes:

September 19th (Due to school closure on September 25th for Rosh Hashana)

October 24th \*\*Divali

November 21st

December 19th (Due to school closure on December 26th for Christmas observed)

January 30th

February 27th

March 27th

April 24th \*\*Should we reschedule? Or is this ok? (Consider: NYS ELA Testing begins Apr 19-Apr 21 ends dependent on computer based or paper based testing)

May 22nd (Due to school closure on May 29th for Memorial Day)

June 12th

July & August - No Meeting

# SLT October Meeting

November 7th, 2022 5pm  
(Rescheduled from October 24th)

## Attendance

- 
- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)
- Zainab Abedin (Parent, )

## Not in Attendance

- Lena Barbera (Principal)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- Henry Greenidge (Parent, )
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)

## Proposed Agenda

- Review and approve minutes from September Meeting  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JuEK-vAd\\_uhMf7cMsMWv6kjpvySbhxkV6sR1JVL3O2g/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JuEK-vAd_uhMf7cMsMWv6kjpvySbhxkV6sR1JVL3O2g/edit?usp=sharing)
- Review and approve SLT Bylaws  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1sI0C64SgkDESJXvXjerLK52OZVKfIF1j5C1poDBkRc4/edit?usp=sharing>
- Clear the Deck! 60 Second Share Out, re: Dance, Parent Outreach, etc
- News from DOE, if any, re: SLT Goals for 2022-23
- Proposals for Family Workshops  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/18eQx5Sd8MS\\_AlUjO-pYGrbDMqmcioVDmAd5rYv8SqXA/view?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/18eQx5Sd8MS_AlUjO-pYGrbDMqmcioVDmAd5rYv8SqXA/view?usp=sharing)
- Updates on participatory budgeting or other PS 20 renovations
- Create Agenda for November 19th Meeting

Notes:

## Dance Updates:

- Halloween Thriller dance was a success
- Limon Dance Group field trip was a huge success, the group wants to return
  - Mr. Chung wants to focus on upper grades next time, who don't get dance
- 350 people came to Lincoln Center to see Paul Taylor Dance Company
- Schedule the talent show for March 2023

## Gardening:

- Parents want to volunteer for classes - put in touch with Green Arts Committee
- Anyway that all classes can get involved in gardening?
- Update on arts teacher?
  - Job posting has been drafted, waiting for review and ok from Ms. Barbera and then will interview
  - Have two applicants
  - Who is going to get art instruction?
  - Art instruction will be in room 319

## Nominating staff for awards such as Big Apple Awards:

- <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/about-us/vision-and-mission/big-apple-awards/big-apple-awards-faq>
- <https://flagaward.org/>
- Will ask PTA to blast out to families

## Two main forms:

- Fall: Family income form
  - What can we do for 100% participation?
  - 60% of families have to qualify for free school lunch in order to be designated as a Title 1 school and receive additional benefits
  - Ask class parents for reminders
  - Can we incentivize?
    - E.g. If your entire grade level gets their forms in you get ice pops party
    - Ms. Morrison has done the incentivizing and it has worked
  - Helps teachers to know the percentage of students that need financial support so that they have enough supplies
  - Ms Blyden reached out to Ms colon for our current completion numbers
- Spring: School Survey
  - Want staff and families to fill it out

## School Community Building

- Can we do something to have more in-school events?
- David reached out Mr. Hampton about a holiday concert
- PTA may be planning holiday craft market
- Perhaps start a performance committee
- Get the class parents in the school to take pictures of the work happening

## Families as Learning Partners

- Can we have families back in?
- The ILT can brainstorm ideas
  - Sharing & Showcasing Student Ideas/ Student Voice
- Can this become an operational issue with teachers being asked to add more to their plate? We should be cognizant about what is being expected of already overworked teachers
- Can JEDI club step in and support teachers by creating catalogue of appropriate books and purchasing them for the teachers
- Discussed heritage and other months, Margo will share with teachers and work on creating resources for potential purchase
- Can also tie in with themes of the Families as Learning Partners
- Opal and Margo will take this to the teachers

## Participatory Budget

- Kids as young as 11 can vote, which will include some fifth graders
- Promote voting and civic engagement throughout the school (non-political)

End: 6:19pm

## Proposed Agenda for November 21st

- Review and Approve Minutes from previous meeting
- Review and Approve SLT Bylaws
- Follow up on topics discussed
  - Family Income Forms aka School Lunch Forms
  - Feedback from staff, re:
  - Feedback, re: Families as Learning Partners/ ILT/ JEDI
  - Holiday Performance development

# SLT November Meeting

November 21, 2022

Started: 5:14pm

## Attendance

- Zainab Abedin (Parent)
- Corinne Apton (Teacher)
- Lena Barbera (Principal)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- Michelle Perez (Teacher)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- Sheilah Quinn (Teacher)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)

## Not in Attendance

- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Henry Greenidge (Parent, )
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)

## Tentative Agenda

- Review of Membership- elect a UFT staff member & elect parent member if we have consensus around the removal of a member
- Review and confirm Meeting dates for the remainder of the 2022-23 year.
- Review and update where appropriate and adopt 2022-23 By-Laws
- Review the current CEP attached
- Review the comment report attached
- Review of the school's budget

## Minutes:

### Membership:

- David will reach out to other prospective parents to replace Henry Greenidge on the SLT
- Sheila Quinn will come on as teacher rep

### By-Laws:

- Reviewed with some small changes (grammar, etc.).
- Approved

Confirming future dates:

- December 19th
- January 30th
- February 27th
- March 27th

Review current CEP:

- iPlan portal access was granted to current members
- New members will need access
- Issues we need to address:
  - Chronic absenteeism
- Currently school budget needs to be updated to reflect the money reallocated to school
- One idea is to set up a regular calendar (like Ms. Rivera had proposed at the previous meeting) where certain workshops are offered at certain times of the year, for example “Math Madness”/”Math Expo” in March, Poetry workshop in April, etc.
- Testing support for families
- For younger grades:
  - Incorporating math into everyday learning
  - Linear measurement
- Review CEP for parent pieces, workshops and other family engagement for next time to help develop workshops
- Ms Barbera and Ms Blyden will bring data on scores to share

Lunch Forms:

- 260 students have not submitted their forms yet

# SLT December Meeting

January 10, 2023 (rescheduled from December)

Started: 5:15pm

## Attendance

- Zainab Abedin (Parent)
- Lena Barbera (Principal)
- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Laurel Pinson (PTA VP)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)

## Not in Attendance

- Corinne Apton (Teacher)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- Henry Greenidge (Parent, )
- Michelle Perez (Teacher)
- Sheilah Quinn (Teacher)

## Agenda:

- Review and confirm Meeting dates for the remainder of the 2022-23 year
- Brotherhood Celebration
- Discuss and update the "Family Engagement portion" and comment section of the CEP

## Minutes:

- Confirming that we are going to be meeting on January 30th next
- Brotherhood Celebration:
  - Will take place in February: before the break
  - There will not be a FALP in February, will be replaced by Brotherhood celebration
  - Issues: Size of the school is too much for a single event
    - One option: model it after the Science Museum: each class did exhibits across hallways and classrooms.
    - During the day classes would present to each other

- Parents were then invited during a PTA time to come and spread across the school
- Make it a two day event, similar to the holiday concert:
  - Showcase work that classes are doing
  - Have kids visit each others to see the work being done
  - Breakfast instead of dinner
- Evening event:
  - Showcase the older kids, 4th and 5th graders
- Ms Garro did a survey:
  - Every grade could have something to show and something to share
  - Gallery walk in the gym
  - Ways to allow siblings to see each others exhibit
- Austin Merrill is putting together a gallery of PS20 across the years
- Logistics of entering and checking IDs can be laborious: what are some ways to ease this?
  - Safety issue with opening multiple doors
  - Ms. Barbera is looking into investing in an ID machine
- Sharing options
  - Recording the livestream of individual classes, share via Konstella
  - Student experience- visiting each other's exhibits or "dress rehearsal," class schedule to see each other's work
- Scheduling the Days & Dates
  - TBD: Feb 15/16 (Wednesday, Thursday)
  - RSVPs
- TBD: Brotherhood Committee Members
  - David & JEDI committee will reach out
  - Opal will talk to staff
- No updates re: New Class Size limits
- David's email, re: AR Grant
  - Getting more information
- 5th Grade Trip grant for 2023-24

## January Minutes

### Attendance

- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)
- Lena Barbera (Principal)

### Not in Attendance

- Zainab Abedin (Parent)
- Corinne Apton (Teacher)
- Laurel Pinson (PTA VP)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- Michelle Perez (Teacher)
- Sheilah Quinn (Teacher)

# January SLT Meeting

January 24, 2023, 5pm-

- Review and Approve previous meeting minutes
- Review meeting survey results and confirm meeting dates/times/modality for the remaining meetings
- Update on Data for CEP goals
- Start unpacking/ updating the Family Engagement piece of the CEP

Notes:

- Update on Brotherhood Committee Planning
- Review of membership
  - New parent member
  - Attendance Policy- Checking in with teacher members
  
- Review of Meeting Date Survey
  - New meeting dates on Tuesday Evenings, 5pm
    - February 28th
    - March 28th
    - April 25th
    - May 30th
    - June 13th
  
- Conversation about Superintendent PPO visit (1/25)
- Approve the minutes from January 10th
  - Follow-Up Re: Jan 10th
    - 5th Grade Grant: info-forwarded
    - Other grant deadlines
  
- Update on Data review-
  - Getting new data from Winter Benchmark (MOY), F&P
  - Data collection complete by February

- CEP Review: Family Engagement Piece
  - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S37Zlo1MMfx6MvJFhVXHC5PljxdnONomT5-KJmxy0RE/edit?usp=sharing>
  - <https://www.iplanportal.com/Dashboard>
- Family Feedback from Chat & Chew
  - Conversations about
    - Homework, ex: spelling
    - Restorative Circles/ Team Building
    - Kindness & Respect
  - Bigger Community Discussion Needed around Homework
    - Amount of Homework/ Friday Homework
    - What is the school's philosophy around homework?
      - What is the progression of homework from K to 5?
      - What skills and habits are we nurturing within students and families?
      - What are the expectations? Rubrics/ tools?
      - Intentionality- how does this work support our learners?
      - Sustainability- make it manageable for teachers & families?
      - Homework Language for Home
        - Progression of Questions to ask as your child is reading (ex: K reader vs 5th grade reader)
        - Supporting not correcting/ fixing
        - Family Workshop! :)
    - Feedback from teachers and families around homework

# February SLT Meeting

February 28th, 2023, 5pm

## Attendance

- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)
- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Zainab Abedin (Parent)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- Sheilah Quinn (Teacher)

## Agenda:

- Discussion on setting up technology end of the IB/Prose work - setting up Google docs, doing trainings
- How do we ensure better SLT participation:
  - One idea is to do work in between meetings
  - But what is the work that needs to be done?
- Family engagement workshops:
  - How many can we realistically do this year?
  - What topics do we want to cover?
    - Should we survey the families?
    - Other places to gauge topics: International Families get together
- Building community among students:
  - Setting up a buddy/reading system with 5th graders and the youngest kids (PreK/K)
- Building community among international students and their families
- Middle school admissions
- How do we connect with parents?
  - Often parental attendance has been low during important meetings, how do we improve participation?
  - Konstella can be tricky, need notifications on, easy to ignore at times
- Standardizing, supporting and improving communication with parents:
  - Can we empower class parents to share more with families?
  - Can teachers send more updates on what is happening in the classroom?

New Meeting dates: 2/28; 3/28; 4/25; 5/30; 6/13

# March SLT Meeting

March 28th, 2023, 5pm-6:45pm

## Attendance:

- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Zainab Abedin (Parent)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- Jean-Claude LeBec (Parent)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- Sheilah Quinn (Teacher)

## Not Present:

- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal) (out sick)

## Agenda:

- Welcome to new members
- Building community among international students and their families
- Reading Buddies
- Family Workshop Interest Survey
- Walentas Grant
- Preparations for 3-5th grade testing
- Other updates
- Agenda for April

## Minutes:

- Invite Meryem Jordan and Natasha Neri are interested in setting up ESL classes for parents
  - Homework help for children of non-native kids
- Ms Barbera will work on reading-buddies program
- Family Workshop Survey:
  - Can we combine with the International Families Survey designed by Natasha, Meryem and Ms Quinn
  - Can aim for 8-10 workshops in a school year
  - For families that do not speak English: DOE has a translation unit, but we'll need enough turnaround time
    - There are other live translation tools available
    - What time is best to offer workshops? Depends on families, but good to ask the question

- Does SLT have access to fund workshops?
  1. Use it for recorded slideshows
- Walentas Grant:
  - Last year's grant was not accepted because it was PTA-led, expansion of an ongoing program
  - Should be on behalf of SLT, should be a priority of the SLT
  - PTA is happy to write the application but need to know that it is a SLT priority
    1. Example: ask for funding for ESL for parents
  - Needs to be sustainable
  - Could be related to IB
    1. Margo: IB needs a good library for the program's success. It needs to be organized. Can we purchase a system to help us organize?
    2. "Library revitalization project"
    3. Can consult with PS 270 about their participatory budget request on library revitalization
  - The hydroponics lab is almost finished
    1. The lab came with the curriculum from Sun Works
    2. It doesn't have as a big need
  - Other examples: embedding field trips into the curriculum
  - David: we need one-pager on school need from Ms Perez for this and other applications
  - Ideas:
    1. Library revitalization
    2. ESL help for parents
    3. Fields trips to help address learning gaps
  - We should have a strategic plan that is visible and on our website. Funders like to see this and we can refer to it in all future applications
  - Having metrics from the school on student/school performance would be very helpful for grant applications
- Next month's agenda:
  - Data from Ms Barbera (Ms Garro will remind her)
  - Family Workshop Survey preliminary results
  - Walentas Updates
  - Strategic planning
  - Earth Month / Climate Justice Initiatives to reduce waste (Mr. Chung)

End: 6:46pm

# April SLT Meeting

April 25th, 2023, 5pm-7pm

## Attendance:

- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Zainab Abedin (Parent)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- Jean-Claude LeBec (Parent)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- Sheilah Quinn (Teacher)
- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)

## Not Present:

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## Agenda:

- Review the March Minutes
- Discussion with International Families
- Approve the Family Workshop Survey
- Preparations for the Walentas Grant
- IB, CEP and Data Discussion
- Mr Chung- Climate Justice/ Earth Month Initiatives
  - [https://www.instagram.com/reel/CrQzrceAmHe/?utm\\_source=ig\\_web\\_copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/reel/CrQzrceAmHe/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link)
    - Is PS 15 in Brooklyn an example of what we can do? See video above.
- Zainab- Start conversation about Consent/ Body Autonomy

## Notes:

### Discussion re: international families

- Natasha Neri and Meryem Jordan joined the meeting to discuss the committee
- Ms Quinn: Looking to put in a grant to support ELL families
- Ms Barbera: want to offer ESL classes for families that need it
  - Budget is limited for offering for parents
  - Not sure if school's are allowed to spend money on adults/parents
  - Can we ramp up volunteerism with our bilingual volunteers
  - English language support will also help parents be a bigger member of the school
- Can we provide wraparound services for our families?

- Try and get funding for different pieces of the puzzle
- Need for ELL kids is growing. Small compared to other schools but it continues to grow
- Academic achievement gap between ELL students - they tend to fall below average
  - What best supports children's success in school it's the school/parent partnership
- We have two different data points:
  - Those enrolled in ELL classes with Ms Quinn: 25 kids current ELL students
  - Those who fill out forms in another language
  - There are at least 40 families that do not speak English but it is likely bigger group
  - Arab families have raised the issue that they cannot help their children with homework because of the barrier
    - They do not use Konstell, etc.
- Natasha mentioned that there are services available through DOE, maybe providing data can potentially help with funding
  - We do not have enough immigrant families to qualify for DOE funding
  - Can we look at other sources of funding: DYCD
- Mr. Chung: we should invite the Arabic families to meetings with translators
- Aim to deploy survey by Friday at the International Families potluck

#### Preparations for the Walentas Grant

- Amanda Bonavita, Sara Garro and Margo Rivera met to discuss possibilities for the grant
  - Think of the projects as phases:
    - Improved library
    - Green arts component
    - Support for international families
- Making library community resource centers is a model that public libraries have been deploying
  - Are we aiming too high
  - Phasing will be important
- Who is going to be "leading" the library project?
- Can the literacy teacher or Green arts teacher be used for this purpose?
- Invest in software, other things to improve the space so teachers can use it, community groups can use it
- Phase 1: library service platform, using graduate students in Library sciences to help organize the library and support it, upgrade computers?
  - Library Committee will have teachers and parents to initially help support the library
  - Research hub, modern library, accessible, library as central part of the school, can be used by everyone for many purposes
- What data do we need for the grant?

#### Data:

- Need to support math at school: Could use strategic math like we added strategic reading to help boost grades. It also would help students that are already meeting the standard to help them move forward.

- Illustrative math was not strong and translated into lower grades and therefore we returned to Envision Math
- Math is a priority for District 13 - there are trainings available for teachers

# May SLT Meeting

May30th, 2023, 5pm-6:15pm

## Attendance:

- Sara Garro (Teacher, SLT Co-Chair)
- Fabienne Keller (Parent, Pre-K)
- Opal Morrison (UFT Chapter Leader)
- Zainab Abedin (Parent)
- Adam Blair (Paraprofessional/ SPOC)
- Jean-Claude LeBec (Parent)
- Margo Rivera (Parent, SLT Co-Chair, 2nd & 5th graders)
- David Pristin (PTA President)
- David Chung (Teacher)
- Sheilah Quinn (Teacher)
- Nicole Blyden (Assistant Principal)
- Lena Barbera (Principal)

## Agenda:

- Review the May Minutes
- Approve the Family Workshop Survey
- Walentas grant

## Notes:

Class size projections for next year (estimates, final numbers TBD)

- 3 3Ks
- 3 PreKs
- 5 Kindergarten classes (adding one more)
- 4 1st grades
- 5 2nd grades
- 4 3rd grade classes
- 3 4th grades
- 3 5th grades
- Funding info is still in flux, but is there specialty we can hire? Maybe a shared science teacher to help run the hydroponics lab
- Mr. Jonathan cannot take over, there is an intense amount of training involved, need a dedicated science teacher
- PTA cannot fund salaries of teachers but can fund residencies like Childs Play
- There are classroom teacher vacancies coming up
- Sent out paperwork for families that are not returning next year

## Survey:

- Do we want to send the [families workshop survey](#) out? Should we wait for June?

## Social Justice Run:

- David and Ms Blyden scouted the park this afternoon to firm up the plans: half the field is cut off but will make do
- Shared the run and picnic schedule
- Will request volunteers for chaperones on Konstella tonight
- Parent Abbas Husain will be doing first aid
- 5th graders are running for multiple causes
- Will ask Austin and others to take photos to share
- Whole Foods may be donating icees but not sure yet

## Valentas:

- Submitted, waiting to see what happens
- Can use the grant to jump start a library rehab

## Remuneration:

- Submit as soon as you can
- Can submit up to 30 hours

Next meeting will be June 13th for now. Ms Barbera may not be able to attend.

Next meeting's agenda:

- Retiring members:
  - Fabienne and Zainab are approaching two years on SLT
- Family workshop survey will go out June 5th