



## SLT Minutes

January 31, 2008

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|-------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| ✓ R. Asher, Principal         | ✓ D. Baldwin, UFT Chair | ✗ J. Ewing, PTA Co-President |
| ✓ D. Fanning, APO             | ✓ D. Belmont, UFT       | ✗ S. Goltser, PTA            |
| ✗ M. Mandery, BTHS Foundation | ✓ J. Ludwig, SLT Chair  | ✗ A. Grundman-Cooper, PTA    |
| ✗ A. Ahmed                    | ✗ I. Yu, Student        | ✗ J. Hertzberg, PTA          |
|                               |                         | ✓ G. Hines, PTA              |

- A. Minutes from December 20, 2007 have been accepted.
- B. Subcommittee – College Office Practices
- Parents have offered to help in the College Office during crunch time. The subcommittee is looking into other high school's practices. If you have suggestions on how the college office can improve, please submit them to the Principal.
- C. Chancellor's Regulation A655 – Four elements have changed though there had not been any changes on since 2004. A copy of the new regulations was distributed at the last meeting and there are a few important changes. The DOE wants members of SLT to do the required 30 hours. Our new Borough Director is Alan Farrell, he is the one we will report to. Is the \$300 stipend taxable income? Do you receive a 1099 for the \$300.00? Do the students need working papers on file to get paid? These are practical issues that should be answered. If we have 10 meetings at an hour and half in length, how do we account for our time when we are working on subcommittees and projects. Mr. Ludwig did not get to ask this question.
- D. Information for the SLT training was not released until the day before our prior SLT meeting. A new list of the upcoming training sessions was provided. We need to track hours from September. Mrs. Heinz volunteered to be the Financial Liaison. This person will be taking attendance and keep track of the hours for each person on the team.
- E. **Goals for our school under the new CEP.** The instructions of the new CEP will be guided by the performance standards and the Quality Review Standards. Therefore, the SLT is not setting the goals. The goals will be set by the Quality Review Standards and accomplished structures. The principal makes the final decision on the CEP and Budget (Regulation 2). The principal said that Brooklyn Tech was recently part of the new progress report and Quality Review Performance Standards and Goals. As a whole this will help shape the new CEP. E. Ludwig said he read in the newspapers that because of this change that the SLT will become a rubber stamp association. He disagrees, but because of the change of rules this could happen. Please do not be dismayed because we have to meet the criteria of all the reviews. We still have a positive role to play as the SLT. There are new requirements to propose to the Borough Director. If this person is just a title and not a functioning role, it is discouraging. R. Asher has informed the SLT of changes not, the Borough Director. E. Ludwig met Mr. Alan Farrell and said he is a nice guy, but he is not available. What do we do when we are reporting to a person who is not functioning in his title?
- F. Suggestions – D. Baldwin suggested finding out who the Borough Director answers to. R. Asher suggests requesting a job description of the Borough Director so we can define if he is doing his job or not.
- G. Team Composition –
- Equal number of staff and equal number of parents on the committee. Dr. Mandery counts towards the total, but there is not a balance between the staff and parents. There should be a balance of 5 for 5.
  - If a DC37 person chooses to sit on the team, they have a right to do so. R. Asher does not anticipate that this will happen but, DC37 is a group in the building and has the right to sit on the SLT Committee. A C30 Committee requires a DC37 representative to sit on the committee. If a DC 37 employee wants to be on the committee, it does complicate things. Bylaws – We have to have a fixed number. The budget is \$3900 and that is the overall amount of our budget. There is no excess budget for SLT. The number has to be filed. It is not written that a DC 37 representative sits on the SLT. Elections must be open to all groups in the building.
  - The SLT Committee consists of Principal, CSA Rep, UFT Chapter, Parent Association, Teachers, Students and a Community Based Representative. The Community Based Rep in our building is Matt Mandery. Dan Baldwin stated we are not a community school and that Matt Mandery is the right person. R. Asher asked if 13 is the number we want. E. Ludwig said the committee used to be 17 people and it was a very unfriendly group. He did not know if it was because of the size or the people.

- Dan Baldwin brought up that Brooklyn Tech High School's student body is not community based and he agrees with Judith that Matt Mandery from the Alumni Association would be right to serve as CEO instead of some person from the community. R. Asher stated that the By Laws can be amended if we need to change it regarding Matt Mandery, CEO from Alumni, to serve as a representative for our school. This will be reviewed every year.
- R. Asher reminded E. Ludwig when he uses the word UFT Representative it could be a Guidance Counselor, Para or secretary position not only a teacher. D. Baldwin suggested elections to ensure fairness.

- H. New Business – Dan Baldwin was impressed by the turn out at the UFT Training Conference on January 26, 2008. There was a lot of information given. Baldwin would have liked a smaller setting. There was a power point presentation and overall the meeting was not intimate.
- I. Ludwig brought up the point that there is a new CEP action plan but no CEP and this would only happen at the DOE. E. Ludwig has brought back material from the UFT Training and he will make copies and give out at the next meeting. E. Ludwig was impressed by the speaker at the training, Ms. Bertha Lewis and does not necessarily agree with her, but admired her. He said she was a great speaker and on fire about her goals.
- J. Next item – The viability of Parent Workshops for Brooklyn Tech High School
- 1) Family issues with adolescence.
  - 2) Deal with computers/issues related to drugs and alcohol.
  - 3) Adolescence sexuality and their parents and their struggle with this.
- K. Goals for Parent Engagement – Brooklyn Tech now has a social worker, Mr. Alvarez to help parents. We also have Eric Strauss who is an Assistant Principal with a Social Work background. R. Asher has talked to Charles Pomaro about running workshops for our parents. Some parents do not know the stress and struggle that students go through in high school. D. Fanning said that parents can benefit from knowledge from our staff about material found on computers that can be dangerous and influence student negatively.
- L. R. Asher suggested that we create a subcommittee for the By Laws. Getting the bylaws done can take a lot of time. This subcommittee would include R. Asher, D. Baldwin, a parent rep, Ms. Hines. D. Baldwin suggested we meet next week before the board meeting. R. Asher reminded everyone that the Spring term is very busy and goes quickly.
- M. Asher wanted to thank Mr. Ludwig for preparing an agenda.
- N. Asher – Items
- Staff Changes for the Spring Term – We have three teachers on sabbaticals: Mr. Lubell, Mr. Wasserstein and Ms. Grossman. All will return in September. Mr. Wagshul is retiring and Ms. Luckman replaced Ms. D. Grossman in Guidance. We have four new teachers: Ms. Roxanne Previty – Math Department with a back ground in economics as well. Mr. Todd Losey in the Technology Department, Ms. Elizabeth Fillippelli in English, and Mr. Paul Ip in the Math Department.
  - Text books – We have found a company that will buy old books and pick them up. We are starting with the Social Studies Department and working through all departments ending with the English Department because the volume in that department. This will help with inventory control and book expenses. We are looking into several book rooms throughout the building. We are looking into a system that would scan a student's ID card against book codes, to keep track of books. R. Asher is also looking into a program that would follow a student's progress. This program would be able to bring up individual progress, group regent progress and many other reports.
  - Florida Institute of Technology – FIT is giving scholarships to consortium students. Some scholarships are worth \$50,000. Five out of our six students are receiving scholarships.
  - Major Placement: 94% of our sophomore received their first choice major.
  - International Arts and Science Major – We are adding a new major. We are not ready to release the material yet. We want to address concerns first. This will add more flexibility and will serve students well.
  - Facility Upgrade – The rear of the library has been totally renovated thanks to the Alumni. There are 9 new computers, bookshelves and teacher work spaces. We will be upgrading Department Offices. Materials have been ordered starting with Social Studies, English and Physics and possibly we can do the rest of the Department Offices by next year. Mr. Roseman has ordered new copy machines from a company called TGI which has better prices and better service. These machines will be placed throughout the building.
  - Elevators – no change.



- Open House is February 13, 2008  
The SGO and NHS will be present. We should have a PA that evening. The more parents and students that come the more they will get a feel for our school. It is nice for new students to meet present students and parents. It is more effective for our students to give positive feedback to new students than that it would be from getting feedback from the principal.
- Data from the first semester for student achievement – We have received grades distributed by subject area. We can also look at total failures. The passing rate was 93%. The lower department was Math at 88%. We are very well overall. E. Ludwig asked if there was a change from last year. R. Asher said he has not completed that yet and is still working on that data. R. Asher said he is not sharing the teacher data with the public. There are a number of pieces that influence grade and he wants to look at grading policies and teacher assessments.
- Budget – R. Asher received an email about budget cuts and met with D. Baldwin and D. Fanning to discuss. We want to avoid personnel cuts. Right now we are carrying a person at \$100,000 per year who cannot find a job. R. Asher is not sure what the outcome will be. There are certain funds that we cannot touch. We need to cut \$375,000 and most of our budget is instructional. R. Asher will keep everyone updated.

Meeting adjourned 6:20 p.m.

Next meeting is February 14<sup>th</sup>.