

PS 516 Sunset Park Avenues Elementary School Leadership Team (SLT)
January 14th, 2026

Start time: 4:30 pm - End time

Topic:

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January 14th, 2026
4:30- 6:30pm

Topic: SLT Zoom link
[ZOOM](#)

Present	Absent	Guests
Principal - Natalie Fransisco PTA President - Jody Avirgan Co-secretary - Erica Lessner Co-secretary Parent- Leonard White Parent- Karina Albistegui Adler Parent - Gregg Stankewicz Chair- Amber Benham Co-chair - Timekeeper- Teacher - Jennifer Sanchez Teacher - Erica Lessner Teacher - Amber Benham CFL Coordinator- Olney Edmonson Julie Ann from Office of District Planning Superintendent Alvarez	Parents: Erica Doyle Zainab Akbar UFT Rep - Gabe Radbel CFL Coordinator- Olney Edmonson	

Agenda

Mission: The mission of the SLT is to provide a forum for parents, administrators, and staff to collaborate and function as a unifying voice that reflects the diversity of our student body. SLT is a space to enact change and enhance the quality of education at PS 516, with the goal of developing kids as people who have agency over themselves and their world.

[SLT Resources](#)

- Call to Order - 4:35
- Greeting - Any special new years resolutions you have?
 - a.
- New Roles- New date and start time Vote
 - Chairperson or co-chair - Benham
 - Secretary or co-secretary- Lessner
 - Timekeeper - Erica Doyle
 - Other roles -

Office of School Planning

- Superintendent Alvarez
 - Middle school 428 going to new site
 - K333 will be somewhat empty
 - Request to have 3rd grade moved to 333 site
 - Public info -
 - Charter schools have opportunities to ask for space
 - In an effort to support our students' community, proposal for D75 site.
 - Keisha McCoy(D75 Superintendent) and Superintendent Alvarez working to bring more D75 programs to public school locations.
 - Provide access to students in our community for D75 students.
 - Preliminary meeting today, hope to go into next phases
 - Joint public hearing, PEP vote
 - Proposal issued, document posted on DOE website, joint public hearing, vote in late March.
 - Co-location - vision for partnerships and opportunities with D75 students to interact, joint activities, joint celebrations, coming together as one community. Collaborative rather than separated,
 - Enough space for 3rd grade, D75, small class size grant.
 - This would be an existing D75 school that expands to our location to accommodate more students.
 - Primary school - aligned grade levels - K-5 school.
 - May be more than 1 site run by 1 principal - site coordinators/supervisors.
 - Every brand new building that comes on site will always include a D75 subset so D75 students can be in their community. Guaranteeing D75 seats in community schools within a district.
 - Flavia P. - email contact for DYCD - can direct questions.
- **Principal's Report -**
 - a. Small Class Size

- i.
- b. Kinder & Pre-K tours
 - i. K dates - few tours already, good feedback, modifications made, another tour happening tonight at 5 led by Baskin.
 - 1. Last tour 1/22. PreK tours - 1/23, 1/29, 2/10, 2/25 (subject to change)
- c. Enrollment
 - i. Kindergarten app closes 1/23, offers released 3/31.
 - ii. PK - app opened today, close 2/27, offers released 5/12.
- d. Screeners
 - i. 2nd round.
 - 1. Academic screeners - Acadience K-2, MAP 3-5
 - 2. Middle of year screeners started last week
 - ii. Not used for grades, used to get data on learning and meet kids where they are.
- e. Upcoming Dates
 - i. MOCK ELA test tomorrow
 - ii. D15 Showcase 2/12
 - iii. 3/5 - PTC - half day
- f. Register Projections
 - i. Email from the city looking at current register - projections for following year for students in different categories.
 - ii. Received and we can make modifications based on principal
 - 1. Mods
 - a. 0 ICT Kindergarteners - DOE projection
 - i. This year we had 3 enter with IEP in place, principal projects 3 for next year.
 - b. 1st Grade - 37 gen ed students (DOE)
 - i. Principal projects 47 gen ed students.
 - c. 2nd Grade - 7 full time self contained students (DOE)
 - i. Principal - 5
 - d. 5 2nd graders in ICT (DOE)
 - i. Principal - 6
 - e. 2nd Grade 38 gen ed (DOE)
 - i. Principal - 43
 - f. 3rd Grade ICT 7 (DOE)
 - i. Principal - 9
 - g. 4th Grade - no changes
 - h. 5th Grade
 - i. 4 students in self contained in 4th grade
 - ii. Projection 4 in 5th Grade
 - i. 27 5th grade gen ed (DOE)
 - i. Principal - 29
 - 2. Principal submits, it is reviewed, approved or denied, funding

determined

3. (Alvarez) Based on past 5 years and patterns
 - a. If we don't meet projections, the school owes money back
4. Underenrolled this year, for past 3 years, we've received money back.
 - a. (Alvarez) each student weighted differently based on factors (ICT, IEPs, ELLs, etc)
 - i. Suggests to be more conservative for likelihood of getting money back to use towards students rather than owing money back and having to make cuts.
5. Parent questions - What is criteria around projections
 - a. Patterns and trends in neighborhood (early childhood centers)
 - b. Patterns and trends within the schools
 - c. Changes slightly in December based on Special Education and English Language Learning needs.
6. Parent question -
 - a. How does size of zone play into this population - our zone is small and involves an industrial area with no children.
 - i. CEC has opportunity to rezone schools if it is necessary.
 - ii. Many factors - shifts around other schools and students as well.
 - iii. CEC votes, has to be approved - lengthy process
 - iv. School openings, COVID - people moving, needs changed. Leveled out.
 - v. Original intent - fill the need at the time PS516 opened.
 - vi. Suggestion to have conversations between CEC and school.
7. Register projections - do we want to stick with what they projected or go with what the projections that Knudson made.
8. Question about school reach - lots of promotion and outreach happening
 - a. Last tour packed, long tour, several families.
9. (Alvarez) Many families choosing to move due to ICE activity, particularly in Sunset Park. Many families choosing to go to a place less conspicuous or moving out of country. This complicates projections, again suggesting to lean towards conservative side of projections.
10. Question - are students in shelters able to stay in school or is this affecting projections? Difficult if moving boroughs and having long commute.
 - a. Do we have any idea of what this could look like for

Black and Brown students have more access to more privileged schools.

1. Some parents don't want to go to different neighborhoods, so instead of going to a more privileged school, how can we bring the aspects of those schools to these neighborhoods?
 2. Antonia - former CEC president, to help walk PTA through process.
- Superintendent Keisha McCoy (D75)
 - a. Which D75 program will be in space? Information not available yet but we will be made aware.
 - b. Confirmed that it will be an elementary school, likely PK-5.
 - c. PTA co-president - is this something to mention to PTA? Yes - Knudson and Julie Ann will be talking about it along with D75 Superintendent McCoy.
 - d. D75 description - Specialized program that services students with a variety of disabilities. Citywide program in every borough.
 - e. Hasn't been voted on yet, not solidified.
 - f. If we don't include D75 (Alvarez) - extra space can go to charter schools based on state/city(?) law.
 - g. Parent question - does this shift goals of opening more PK/K classes? Yes and no
 - h. 8 classrooms for D75 plus admin space -
 - i. Alvarez - small class size grant can affect rooms for cluster teachers
 - j. This proposal allows for full class sized reduction and services D15 D75 students.
 - **Teachers' Report -**
Skipped until next month
 - **Parents' Report -**
 - a. PTA events
 - i. Movie night, book bodega,
 - ii. Pajama Jam?
 1. Let's bring it back - remove the question mark.
 2. Benham to check with Baskin.
 - b. Cool Culture Pass - skipped until next month
 - c. Business outreach updates - skipped until next month
 - d. ICE response updates and questions about family support
 - i. PTA community providing support
 1. Come up with plan of action if someone is taken into custody. What resources should we offer the family? What can PTA do?
 - a. DOE hotline for legal resources
 2. Can we have a separate meeting to plan this?
 3. How do we communicate to community if this happens (while respecting privacy/legality - FERPA, personal identifiable information laws)

- a. Can we give a general “I know a family...” to notify that there is a family that needs help without any legal implications?
 - b. If a family reaches out to school, who can they reach out to on PTA for support - keep everything confidential.
4. Co-council - clinics - community clinic where people can associate school with a resource.

- **CFL Report**

- a. postponed Winter Wonderland Event is scheduled for next week Wednesday, January 21st at 4:15 pm! Flyers were handed out today. We will send an email and Remind with all information!

- **New Business - skipped until next meeting**

- a.

- **Public Comments - skipped until next meeting**

- a.

- End time - 5:51

Next Meeting-

February 10 at - 4:30