

PS 516 Sunset Park Avenues Elementary School Leadership Team (SLT)
 March 17th, 2026

Start time: 4:30 pm - End time

Topic:

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 March 17th, 2026
 4:30- 6:30pm

Topic: SLT Zoom link

[LINK](#)

Present	Absent	Guests
Principal - Jessica Knudson PTA President - Jody Avirgan UFT Rep - Gabe Radbel Co-secretary - Co-secretary Parent- Chair- Amber Benham (online) Co-chair - Timekeeper- Teacher - Jennifer Sanchez (online) Teacher - Erica Lessner (online) Teacher - CFL Coordinator- Olney Edmondson Natalie Francisco Parent - Leonard White (online) Parent - Karina Albistegui-Adler Parent -Gregg Stankewicz Parent -	Parents: CFL Coordinator- Olney Edmondson Natalie Francisco	Michelle Giambo

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 plans for spring break?
 - 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

- **Principal's Report -**

- a. Updates

Spring Break starts April 2, ELA test April 16-17, Math test April 28-29, Science Test May 12, NYSESLAT window April 13-May 15th
Stem dates with soccer drones (K-2 April 13th, 3-5 April 30th)

Inside Broadway started.

We launched a print making program after school specifically for students in temporary housing (because funds are designated for this specific population).

We launched a morning ELA (now) and math (will be next) program for families.

Pajama Jam was a huge success.

Teiam after school program accepted for the fall for pre-k and any kindergarteners who don't get an offer with CFL. (Can we get the word out about this?)

Generation Ready project-based learning will be working with teachers in May to help create Amplify science curriculum maps.

Office of District Planning meeting last night, any parent with a question about PEP proposal (for District 75 program/moving 3rd grade to old building) can call or email by March 24th at 6pm and it will be answered at the meeting on March 25th. Knudson has drafted a letter to let families know about this.

The D75 school would start with K and grow.

- b. School Survey Closes April 1st

- i. Could we have someone stationed at dismissal with QR codes and OSIS numbers?
 - c. Kindergarten offers go out March 31st. Previewed them and saw that we'll have 3 classes (not quite full, but 18ish students), 75% non-zoned students (why?), still mostly in the neighborhood, but outside our zone. We always have a lot of non-zoned offers, but not that many. Clearly the word got out about our school, which is great.
 - d. CEP Progress Monitoring
 - i. ELA goal is to have 50% demonstrating average or above growth: we are at 47%
 - ii. 43% of ELLs showed average or above growth
 - iii. Math 61% of students schoolwide (goal is 62%) showed average or above growth
 - iv. For NYC Rise, only 36.5% of families have enrolled. This is a challenging goal for our population. Maybe the city has reps who could do a presentation on this?
 - v. 29.4% of students are chronically absent right now, which is more than before. The reasons are varied and complicated.
 - e. CEP Planning will continue at next meeting

- **Teachers' Report -**

- a. Pajama Jam feedback?
 - i. Maybe condense upper grades a bit (do a dual language 4th/5th grade room), otherwise attendance was good
 - ii. Helpful to communicate to families that there will be food/snacks available
 - iii. Make PJ day official during the day to increase visibility
 - b. Cluster teachers for next year
 - i. Preference sheets do not necessarily align with what happens with the fall because the positions are funding dependent ultimately, but Knudson will list 5 clusters on the preference sheet
 - c. Manga performance funding

- **Parents' Report**

- a. Coin drive is here! Starts tomorrow. Winning class: teacher gets \$40 to Slimak, class gets pizza party.
 - i. Best way to distribute bins? Bins on front shelf in office with baggies for kids to take home.
 - ii. PTA/food pantry hours/support - Proposed Schedule
 - 8:20-9am 2x / week. (Gabby and Knudson suggested starting with just 2 days and then building from there), likely Monday and Friday
 - In the evening once a month during PTA - 5:30-6pm
 - also wondering if it should be open during Togetherness Thursday and Family Friday, that seems like worth trying to coordinate

- b. Garden in back of original building
 - i. Karina volunteers to investigate/help with this
 - c. Screen time conversation
 - i. How to balance limiting screen time with the need to familiarize students with typing to publish their work online
 - ii. Purchased subscription to Typing Club
 - iii. First step is to articulate our policy
 - d. Parent concerns about the new charter school being built across from Dewey and how we as a school might distinguish ourselves from increasing competition through our mission statement (project learning, community-driven activities, etc.)
 - i. One challenge is that it will be K-8, which can be very appealing to families
 - ii. But beyond ICT, they don't have specialized services for students. And they don't have a bilingual program.
- **CFL Report**
 - a. Summer
 - i. We have begun Summer enrollment. Right now, current CFL participants have received an interest form. Once we have gathered all of the interest from current CFL participants and former Summer participants from last year, we will open it up to the entire 516 community. We have 100 slots to fill. Summer camp is running from July 6 to August 14, 8 AM to 3 PM, and we plan to be at PS 516 this summer.
 - b. Upcoming events
 - i. Open House- This month we are holding our open houses. An opportunity to allow parents to come and spend a day in the life of an after school student. So far we've done two days with four units and we have two more days next week with our additional four units.
 - ii. Spelling Bee - we will be having our first-ever spelling bee in April. We are very excited about this. As of now, it is only in-house, but we are looking into making it open to families to come.
 - c. Spring Show
 - i. Our Spring show is on May 20, 2026. We will begin production rehearsals In Late April all the way to the show date. Our show title is Suessland: A Journey of Peter and Penny. This show is about the journey of Peter and Penny as they traveled to CFL after school and along the way they interact with different towns that represent a different Dr. Seuss book.
- **New Business -**
- **Public Comments -**
- End time - 5:36

Next Meeting

- 4/21 - 4:30
- 5/18 - 4:45
- 6/16 - 4:30