

**Bushwick Leaders' High School for Academic Excellence**  
**School Leadership Team Meeting**  
**January 8, 2025**  
**6:00 PM-7:00 PM**

**Attendance:**

- Enrique Garcia, Principal
- Stephen Birkmire, SLT Secretary and UFT Member
- Melissa De Los Santos, Parent Coordinator
- Samia Aziz, DC37 - School Aide Representative
- Yesenia Reyes, PTA President
- Jennifer Lopez, Parent Representative
- Jeannette Tejada, Parent Representative
- Marleny Encarnación, Parent Representative
- Margaret Rivera Meneca, Parent Representative

Absent:

- Nick Marrone, SLT Chairperson and UFT Chapter Leader
- Steven Arriaga, Good Shepherd Services
- Tonatiuh Ramos, UFT Member
- Isai Medina, Student Representative
- Adelin Nunez, Student Representative

**Agenda:**

- Attendance/Roll Call
- Approval of December Meeting Minutes
- School Culture and Climate Update
- Other Business
- Adjournment of SLT Meeting

**Review and Approve Minutes from December 2024 Meeting:**

- The SLT reviewed and approved the minutes from the December SLT Meeting.
  - Motion to approve December SLT Minutes by Enrique Garcia, seconded by Yesenia Reyes.

### **School Culture and Climate Update:**

- Principal Garcia provided the following updates regarding school culture and climate:
  - “Scanning School” Update:
    - Our incidents are going down so it is less likely that we will become a scanning school. As a reminder, scanning is only done for weapons, not phones or vapes.
  - A school Substance Misuse Committee has been created:
    - The committee meets every 2 weeks.
    - Some parents have joined meetings. We are looking for students to attend meetings as well.
    - We want to make sure that students are well supported in addressing issues related to vaping/substance misuse.
    - We want to be clear to students what the consequences of vaping/substance misuse are for our school.
    - We have a SAPIS counselor, Ms. Jasmine Smith, to help us in our efforts. Ms. Smith will be utilized in more severe cases.
  - Our goal is to have an action plan in place for this school year.
  - The next Substance Misuse Committee Meeting will take place Tuesday 1/14/25, from 3:15-3:45 pm.
  - Our Attendance Rate is currently at 84%. It was 85% before the Winter Recess.
    - We would like to leverage field trips as a way to incentivize students to attend school regularly.
  - We will be hosting a “Bring Your Parent to School Day” on 2/14/25.
    - We would like teachers to use the Word-Phrase Protocol in their classes to showcase to parents.
  - Mid-Year Assessments will be conducted through MAP Growth and exams in core content areas.
  - Senior Trip Fundraising:
    - Ms. Tejada and Ms. Reyes -
      - We have received 150 boxes of World’s Greatest Chocolate (60 bars per box).
      - We are looking to begin the fundraiser by raising \$2000.
      - We will need adult chaperones.
      - Seniors have communicated that they would like to do something overnight. We need the support of teachers and all school community members to raise enough funds for the trip.
  - How can we get students to read more?
    - Ms. Reyes - Importance of providing incentives for kids to read (anime, cookbooks, etc.)

- Principal Garcia - Possibility of doing a high school book fair (possibility of providing books for free)
- Ms. Tejada - Conduct a survey about what kids are interested in reading and finding the right books to distribute

**Other Business:**

- There was no other business discussed during tonight's SLT Meeting.

**Adjournment of SLT Meeting:**

- Motion to adjourn January SLT Meeting by Yesenia Reyes, seconded by Jennifer Lopez.
- The next SLT Meeting will take place on February 12, 2025.