



PS 159

Isaac Pitkin School

School Leadership Team Minutes October 28, 2025

Time 3:30 PM

Room: 101

Draft: October 28, 2025

Agenda	Discussion
Attendance	Nefferiti Lee (Principal) Carla Jennings (AP) Emily Oh (Instructional Coach) Shanequa Jennings (Instructional Coach) Richard Martello (UFT) Nishat Fabia (Teacher) Nick Grammenos (Teacher) Annette Lacoot Hylton (PTA) Juan Birista (PTA) Golam Mohiuddin (PTA) Amanda Martinez (PTA) Josie Rodriguez (PTA)
Review of Mission & Vision Statement of PS 159K	Vision: At PS 159 we work to ensure that our children find education and learning worthy, meaningful, and relevant. By educating, supporting and celebrating each child's individual strengths, we provide our children with opportunities to excel in all content areas to ultimately be prepared to step into the role of tomorrow's leaders.

	<p>Mission: Public School 159 strives to provide all our children with social, emotional, and academic learning experiences that are equitable to ensure that they become life-long learners with a strong academic foundation. Our students are tomorrow's leaders who have the critical thinking skills needed to meet the demands of our ever-changing global society.</p>
Diving into Data & Celebrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing last year's ELA and math data for state tests grades 3-5, there is a school-wide strength in math. The team worked together to analyze data from State tests and Acadience and NWEA assessments across the school. Ms. Oh asked and the team responded to the posed question: What do you notice about our last year data on Solved? A parent shared that we have a large number in green math. Strength is in math. A Parent and student shared that green indicates that students are on grade level. There is growth to celebrate. Looking at NWEA data, there is an increase in both growth and achievement percentile in NWEA . There is a decrease in red and increase in both on and above grade level students . ELA NWEA data shows more stagnance, while an 11-12 percent increase is visible in math. Data shows that while students are growing, there is still a significant number below grade level. Ms. Lee shared that the data shows most of the students that are below level include our special education students and multilingual learners. This includes data from NWEA math assessment (Beginning of Year). Ms. Oh shares that there is word problem solving that is being tested in the assessment, and it is important to recognize that students who do not have a strong command of the language will have lower scores. We have about 186 students who are multilingual learners or English language learners.
Instructional Shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team discussed instructional shifts that will support our multilingual learners and special education students. There are several instructional shifts in math. Mathematics is no longer computation, but it requires problem solving and multiple steps. Language learning is intertwined with math instruction. Because ELLs need time to develop language proficiency, the state is counting growth for these students. ENL teachers and SPED teachers receive extra prep weekly to work together and plan to improve instruction for our language learners and special education students. Teachers are engaging in intervisitations and supporting one another to build strong instruction for ELLs. The WIN (What I Need) period will target students who need extra support. 4:1 tutors will work with students who are far below and

	<p>below grade level in Acadience. Push in and pull out will be utilized to service students as well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AP Jennings also shared that there will be a Standards Based Instruction (SBI) period for upper grades (3-5) where teachers will design lessons and activities to support standards R2 and R3. These are standards of focus which students struggled with based on our school data in ELA. A parent shared that class size can be a factor of struggle for many students. Ms. Lee shared that the state is pushing to reduce class size and we are adapting by creating smaller class sizes on some grades. For example, four first grade classes are capped at 20 students. School CEP goals include: 8 point increase in Acadience, and 6 percent increase in the state test for ELA. Ms. Jennings shared that to support our instructional focus of productive struggle, we have created teacher teams to strengthen instruction. Additionally, to support productive struggle, our students need skills such as grit, perseverance, and determination. School crafted Panther Pledge and PRIDE- Preparation, respect, integrity, determination, and excellence to build these core values in students.
Parent Events/ Upcoming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a Fall Festival with hay and pumpkins for all students to participate on 10/31/25. Students can dress up as their favorite characters. PTA events include a canned food drive in November to support families who may be in hardship or losing SNAP benefits. There will be a coat, sock, hat, and gloves drive in the winter time. There will be a holiday performance in December. The date is to be determined. There will be a workshop for the College Savings program for kids in grades K-4. Acadience workshop for parents will also be happening throughout the year. There will be a half day on 11/6 for parent teacher conferences. Students will be dismissed at 11:40 am. Meetings will be taking place on Google Meet from 1-3 and 4-7.
Budget/ Funds Allocation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Title 1 budget is 717, 233. Funds will be used for air conditioning in the auditorium, to hire new special education teachers and a new ENL teacher. Funds will also be used for afterschool for grades 3-5. We have \$7,123 allocated for the parent portion of our title 1 funds.
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PTA Meeting is every third Thursday of the month at 9am. Virtual options will be available. SLT is every last Tuesday of the month at 3:30 pm.

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