



## ***P.S. 48 Joseph R. Drake School***

1290 Spofford Avenue Bronx, New York 10474  
Tel: (718) 589-4312, Fax: (718) 842-6993, Website: [www.ps48x.org](http://www.ps48x.org)

***Joseph DiCrescento, Principal***  
***Laverne Wyre,AP | Michelle Sukhdeo,AP | Joshua Mateo, AP***

# School Leadership Team Meeting Summary

**Date:** September 30th, 2025

**Next Meeting:** October 14th, 2025

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## Main Topics Discussed

### 1. SLT Meeting Scheduling & Calendar

- Meetings to be held on the **second Tuesday of every month**:
  - October: **October 14th, 2025**
  - November: November **25th** to accommodate other schedules (not the usual second Tuesday); will coincide with Thanksgiving; may not meet due to Thanksgiving event.
  - December: **December 9th, 2025**
  - January: **January 13th, 2026**
  - February: **February 10th, 2026**
  - March: **March 10th, 2026**
  - April: **April 14th, 2026**
  - May: **May 12th, 2026**
  - June: **June 9th, 2026**
- If a scheduled meeting cannot be held, alternatives will be discussed during meetings.
- All SLT meetings and documentation (agendas, minutes) will be available under the "Families SLT" section on the school website.

### 2. Welcoming New Members & Electing Officers

- New SLT members were welcomed and congratulated for their election.
- Officer elections:
  - Damaris Sanabria was elected as PA Treasurer.
  - Chairperson: Mrs. Cano-Lawson elected to run meetings, organize agendas, and ensure minutes/agendas are uploaded.
  - Note Taker identified.
- By-laws update:
  - Two absences result in removal from SLT to maintain quorum.
  - Bylaws and officer names need to be updated and uploaded as soon as possible.



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- Collection of updated contact information (emails, phone numbers, preference for text reminders).

### **3. After-School Program CBO (Community-Based Organization) Discussion**

- The PAL (Police Athletic League) organization was terminated due to ongoing dissatisfaction (e.g., not catering to student interests, missing gaming equipment, lack of trips).
- **SLT is tasked with selecting a new CBO** for the school:
  - PAL will continue Summer Rising for one more summer.
  - Candidates for the new organization (to present at upcoming meetings):
    - **Graham Windham** (first to present on October 14th meeting)
    - **Casa Maria**
    - **We Got Next**
    - PAL may be allowed to interview again, but leadership is not inclined to select them.
- Final selection will consider parent and SLT input, but principal will make the final decision, followed by a PA (Parent Association) meeting and virtual candidate presentations.

### **4 Comprehensive Education Plan (CEP) and Academic Performance**

- CEP is a collaborative document setting school goals.
- **ELA and Math goals:**
  - **By June 2026:**
    - **Grades 3–5 ELA proficiency:** Increase from 28% to 33% (5% gain) on state ELA exam.
    - **K–2 Acadience literacy at/above grade:** Increase from 43% to 48%.
    - **Students at Level 1 I Ready:** Decrease from 72 to 67.
- **Current performance:**
  - 187 students have 100% attendance; 89 students at 90–99%; 96 are at risk; 73 are currently chronically absent (>5 days).
  - In Math (grades 4–5): 26 at grade level, 3 above, 40 just below, 27 far below.
  - ELA saw marked improvement from 63% at Level 1 in 2022 to 39% in 2025.
  - Math Level 1 reduced from 72% (2022) to 37% (2025).
  - District ranking remains low (34th of 38), with the goal to advance to at least 25th.
- **Approach:**
  - Focus on standard-based instruction and targeted intervention.
  - Use of data tools (SOLVE, I Ready) to monitor and tailor instruction.
  - Concern over students not taking I Ready assessments seriously, leading to distorted data.



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### **5. Teacher & Staff Feedback**

- Teachers expressed the early positive impact of targeted standard-based instruction, particularly in ELA.
- Examples provided of academic and behavioral improvements in students with previously challenging profiles.
- Teacher Ms. Branch highlighted resilience and effectiveness in classroom management and student engagement.

### **6. School Culture, Parent Engagement, and Community Relations**

- Positive shift in school culture noted.
  - Increased teacher and student participation in events (Spirit Days, “Dad Brings Your Child to School Day” with 95 fathers attending).
  - Focus on celebrating and promoting school identity and community.
- Encouragement for parents to contribute testimonials and promote school websites.
- Noted ongoing concerns with local charter schools (e.g., Blaze), including their origins, community impact, and facilities.
- Emphasis on not chasing after lost students to charter but rather making PS 48 the best environment to attract and retain families.

### **7. Logistics and Reminders**

- All relevant dates, policies (discipline, dress code, etc.), and school updates will be continuously made available online.
- Request for parents and members to promote school and assist in community advocacy where possible.
- Specific note to ensure all participants sign in and provide requested contact information to Mrs.Cano-Lawson.

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## **Action Items**

- 1. Update and Upload Bylaws:**
  - Update names and absences policy; upload new bylaws to website as soon as ready.
- 2. Confirm Officer Positions:**
  - Finalize and announce updated officer list (Chair, Treasurer, Note Taker).
- 3. Collect Contact Details:**
  - Gather and confirm preferred communications methods (email, text).



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4. **Set CBO Interviews:**
    - o Schedule and confirm presentations for Graham Windham (October 14), Casa Maria, We Got Next.
    - o Consider the possibility of a PAL interview.
  5. **Prepare CEP Monitoring:**
    - o Regular review of progress towards academic goals; collect data each marking period.
  6. **Promote Website and Parent Testimonials:**
    - o Request written testimonials from parents; ensure all relevant information is centralized online.
  7. **Community Awareness:**
    - o Encourage parent attendance/awareness of community board meetings for advocacy.
  8. **Reminders for Next Meeting:**
    - o October 14, 2025, featuring Graham Windham presentation.
    - o Updated bylaws and officer information to be reviewed.
    - o Progress toward CEP goals to be discussed with more data.
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## Follow-up

- **Next Meeting:** October 14th, 2025—First candidate (Graham Windham) presentation, CEP update, new bylaws and officer review.
- **CBO Selection Process:** Sequential interviews at following meetings until selection is made; final decision to be discussed at PA meeting (virtual), with parent questions allowed.
- **Academic Progress Review:** Ongoing, with next check-in on test data.
- **Community Events:** Continue to track participation and school climate shifts.



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