
District 2 Leadership Team Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

June 16, 2025 / 8:30am – 9:30am via Zoom

Introduction

The June 16, 2025 District 2 District Leadership Team (DLT) meeting focused on reflecting on the 2024–25 school year and laying the groundwork for the 2025–26 academic year. The meeting provided updates from key constituency and union representatives, reviewed and approved minutes from previous meetings, and explored district-wide priorities and initiatives. Topics included instructional goals, equity and attendance challenges, school climate data, staffing changes, and early discussions around a potential school merger. The session also included planning for future DLT meetings and recognized leadership transitions.

Attendees

- Kelly McGuire – D2 Superintendent
- Craig Slutzkin – CEC President
- Dayvonne Anderson – Manhattan High Schools Representative
- Caitlin Canfield – PTA Representative
- Pamela Rodriguez – DC37 Union Representative
- Jessica Harvey – UFT Representative
- Renny Fong – Principal Representative
- Leslie Hurdle – Manager of Operations, D2 & DLT Minutes
- William Doyle – DCEEP

Meeting Summary

Constituency & Union Updates

- CEC (Craig Slutzkin): Final meeting of the year held at PS 33; awaiting election results.
- Manhattan High Schools (Dayvonne Anderson): Final meeting on June 23; elections upcoming; strong year-end presentation at CCHS.
- PTA (Caitlin Canfield): Wrapping up elections; welcoming new PTA presidents.
- DC37 (Pamela Rodriguez): Site visits ongoing; new member orientations and hiring halls planned for fall.
- UFT (Jessica Harvey): School-Based Options voting completed. Increased use of the Open Market Transfer System due to high hiring needs. Mention of a no-confidence vote at an unnamed school.
- Principal Perspective (Renny Fong): Budget constraints despite class size reduction mandates. Increased hiring activity and staffing challenges. Summer Rising program at PS 130 expecting 450 students.

Minutes Approval

- April and May minutes reviewed and approved.

District Priorities & DCEEP Goals (2025–26)

- Focus Areas: Core instruction, Intervention/enrichment (e.g., WIN periods), Data-based decision-making.

- Attendance: Improving but chronic absenteeism remains high (~18%).
- Equity Focus: Targeting support for students with disabilities, ELLs, and Black/Hispanic students.
- Discipline: Suspension rates down overall, but disproportionality persists for Black students and students with disabilities.

School Merger Discussion

- Schools Involved: Salk School and 75 Morton Middle School.
- Status: Early exploratory phase; no decisions made.
- Concerns Raised: Impact on DC37 members, Need for broader community engagement (e.g., PS 40, PS 3, PS 234 families).

Math Initiatives

- Continued rollout of Illustrative Math curriculum.
- Expansion of WIN periods for math intervention and enrichment.
- Launch of a district-wide Math Olympiad program.
- Exploring middle school geometry offerings.

Staffing & Leadership Changes

- 127 new teachers hired due to class size reduction: 81 elementary, 13 K–8, 33 middle school.
- Retirements: Doreen Esposito, Savannah Ng, Rhonda Perry.
- New Interim Principals: Amy O’Brien (Manhattan New School), Rachel Rosenbaum (PS 2), Salk interim to be announced.

Planning for 2025–26 DLT Meetings

- Discussion on preferred days/times.
- Pamela suggested starting at 9:00 AM instead of 8:30 AM.
- Jessica requested avoiding Thursday mornings.
- Dayvonne noted new leadership may affect scheduling.

First meeting of the '25–'26 school year: Monday September 15, 2025