

**Stuyvesant High School - School Leadership Team - Meeting Minutes**  
**June, 16 2026 - Principal's Conference Room**

| Administration               | Faculty                                          | Parents                                             | Students                          |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Dr Seung C Yu<br>(Principal) | Sandra Brandan<br>(UFT Rep.)                     | Lim Fong Sim<br>Hwang (Sophomore<br>Rep.)           | Johanna Li (SU Vice<br>President) |
| Casey Pedrick (AP)           | David Hanna (UFT<br>Rep. Alt.)                   | Ting (Tina) Li (Junior<br>Rep.)                     | Kassandra Sindhi<br>(SLT Rep.)    |
| Dr Gary Haber (AP)           | Zakiya Casey (DC37<br>Rep.)                      | Yiatin Chu<br>(Freshman Rep.)                       | Diana Wang (SLT<br>Rep. Alt.)     |
|                              | Dina Ingram (Family<br>& Business<br>Management) | Karin Sloan<br>(Co-President)                       | Sonam Kanaujia<br>(SLT Rep. Alt.) |
|                              |                                                  | Casandra Chew<br>(Co-President)                     | Laiba Sibu (SLT Rep.<br>Alt.)     |
|                              |                                                  | Zhouchuan (Brian)<br>Sun (Sophomore<br>Rep.)        |                                   |
|                              |                                                  | Margarit<br>Ordukhanyan<br>(Sophomore Rep.<br>Alt.) |                                   |
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### June 16, 2026 SLT Meeting

Facilitator: Lim Fong Sun (Jamie) Hwang (Parents)

Secretary: Cassandra Sinchi

The meeting was called to order at 3:50 by Ms. Hwang

1. Welcome + Review and Approval of meeting minutes from May 19, 2026
  - a. Johanna Li was marked absent
  - b. Sandra Brandan spelling
  - c. Motion to approve by Zakiya Casey
  - d. Seconded by David Hanna
2. Discussion on school class size legislation and budget expansion
  - a. Administration Overview
    - i. SY 2026-2027 Budget is approximately \$29 million and \$27 million in Fair Student Funding
      1. Administration prioritizes maintaining flexibility in student funding, where the needed amount fluctuates based on enrollment, teacher availability and personnel support
      2. Teacher salaries have increased for SY 2026-2027
      3. SY 2025-2026 Budget was \$28 million and \$26 million in Fair Student funding
  - b. NYCDOE has confirmed the Specialised High Schools, specifically Stuyvesant, are exempt from class size compliance percentages
    - i. Although Stuyvesant is exempt from these calculations, they are still required to comply with class size legislation to its best capacity
    - ii. NYCDOE is prioritizing schools that have the space availability, and financial capital to meet 70% compliance for SY 2026-2027

- c. Mayor Mamdani has extended class size compliance for an additional two years as NYCPS require 6000 additional teachers, and substantial construction projects
- d. Class Size Legislation Impact on Stuyvesant
  - i. Stuyvesant has made minimal movement towards complying with class size due to space, personnel and funding constraints
    - 1. 28 Students in Freshman English Class
    - 2. 25 Students in Core Classes
  - ii. UFT have been notified of amendments to class size legislation, that would include clarifying differential teacher salaries, which is an amendment that would be welcomed by Stuyvesant if they were not deemed exempt
  - iii. Timeline of AP and Electives selection remain unchanged to allow for preliminary planning
    - 1. Reasoning for programming changes are made available in late summer to early September. Programming changes are crucial in the summer, as class availability is determined by teachers informing the Programming Office
    - 2. Budget Allocations for teachers and personnel are determined by expected teacher leaves submitted before 06/26 (last day of school)
  - iv. Conversations with PA on funding are ongoing, but compliance with class size legislation is dependent on the school's budget, which is determined by student enrollment and teacher availability
  - v. Stuyvesant is given Hold Harmless protections, where the school will not return any funding that is less than received if projections are not met
    - 1. Mid-Year funding is unclear because of uncertainty in projections
    - 2. Stuyvesant has not met projections for freshman enrollment,
  - vi.
  - vii. Programming does not change
  - viii. Stuyvesant has not made a lot of movement to smaller class sizes due to space, personnel, etc.
    - 1. Freshmen English classes are 28 now
  - ix. Without exceptional circumstances, we will not be able to make movement to smaller class sizes
  - x. Class size legislation has been amended: UFT received emails clarifying differential teachers
    - 1. If Stuyvesant was one of the schools to reduce class sizes, we would welcome it
  - xi. Programming: incomplete information leads to planning ahead of time, meaning timeline of AP, electives selection has not changed
    - 1. By the end of the school year, all programming is preliminary

2. Changes in personnel, funding for staff, gain or lose students
  3. Reasoning for programming changes available in late summer to early first few weeks of school year
  4. In the summer, timing is crucial
    - a. Teachers last day is 6/26
      - i. Some may inform of leave later so have to adapt to that
    - b. The budget of teachers depends on their last day of school. Until teachers come off budget money is still stuff so making changes becomes difficult
  5. Moving forward with programming
  6. Talks in PA with funding
    - a. assumes teachers are open to teach, space and AP availability
- xii. Unclear budget details:
1. Hold harmless: we will not give anything less than received, money will not be taken away if protections are met.
    - a. Mid-years numbers are unclear
    - b. Freshmen predictions in the beginning of the school year
      - i. Has not met predictions: typically predict 850, closer to 800 in reality
      - ii. Pick up students in 10th grade to account for number disparities
      - iii. Projections will shift to 830
      - iv. Money for a higher projected number to receive liens upfront to pay staff
    - c. If Stuyvesant were to move to smaller class sizes: 15-17 teachers to account for 60% of smaller class sizes, does not include additionally needed administrators
      - i. We could retain full programming but all classrooms would be used every period
      - ii. We would not be able to hire 15-17 more teachers
    - d. Overall, will be a space issue
      - i. Teachers pay will always be an issue we don't have much control over
      - ii. Ideas: Satellite spaces are in consideration
        1. Hesitant to break up school but might be implemented for spacings
        2. 6-9, 10-12: 6 period coverages
    - e. Yiatin Chu asks questions regarding using PA funds for staffing salaries

- i. Dr. Yu responds that the school pays “coverages”, not salaries in these situations where teachers are compensated for 6th period instruction
- ii. It would not be one-1-one, use money given to then be used for purchasing more things
- iii. Fair student funding for coverages
- iv. What to take into consideration with class Zoe’s:
  - 1. Juniors and seniors are concerned with teacher changing
  - 2. Has led to drop of sections of math teams and calc bc
- v. Ms. Chu responds explaining her own experience, additional bunk coming she explains may go to teachers specifically at specialized schools
- vi. Parents express support for providing satellite locations to comply with class size legislation
- vii. Differentials/Exceptions are applicable to schools that have an improved plan to address space issues with construction projects
  - 1. Differentials are an incentive to get schools to figure out a plan
- viii. Space suggestions by Sandra Brandan: BMCC, Pre-School, Abandoned Office Space Manhattan Youth, etc.
  - 1. These spaces often have classroom setups
  - 2. Proposal to host seniors in satellite sites
  - 3. Proposal to work with CollegeNow (dual enrollment would be amazing)
    - a. class schedule from 10 – 12 PM
- ix. Dr. Yu wonders the legal capability of these programs, some of Stuyvesant's current students leave school early for programs already
  - 1. Harvey Blumm spearheads an apprenticeship program, where students get the opportunity to balance employment with school coursework
    - a. Mr. Shahom questions how workable the satellite sites
      - i. Dr. Yu replies explaining how the programs would need to be different and the sites would all have to do with proximity
      - ii. Ms. Chew explains PA has money set aside as big ticket items, has applied for a grant too
      - iii. Lowering class size to 28 is feasible, 25 is not
- f. Receiving additional grant funding for compliance is unlikely because specialized high schools are likely to harm compliance percentages
  - i. Stuyvesant is not receiving DOE funding for phone pouches
  - ii. Staffing is the biggest issue here
  - iii.
- g. Ms Brandan questions if enrollment will decrease if compliance is enforced

- i. Dr. Yu states they have indicated no change in numbers at this time
- ii. Changes to enrollment numbers must be confirmed 2 years in advance, meaning that enrollment numbers will remain unchanged for SY 2026-2027; projections are confirmed a year in advance
- iii. Dr. Yu informed that families are turning to private schools after COVID
  - 1. Our bigger concern is there are not enough students, larger completion among public and private/charter schools
- iv. Concerns
  - 1. Sandra Brandan: enrollment lowering and number of teachers then lowering as well
    - a. Yu: challenge is we are still waiting on information, don't want infighting
    - b. smaller class sizes aren't the problem; other issues arising because of them is the concern
    - c. Without the students and teachers, Stuyvesant endorsement may be cut
      - i. 6 credits for science, 8 for English
      - ii. could be fighting, internal or external, among 1100 schools
      - iii. Want to avoid fighting between stuyvesant staff and family, etc
    - d. Ms. Hwang states she is not necessarily worried. Even if DOE messes up, stuyvesant will still be the best
    - e. Dr. Yu adds that it is important to have accurate information when sending concerns above principle. Many issues are entangled and involve more than just one aspect of the school system. It is easy to cause more problems when attempting to solve one issue while being uneducated
      - i. Although answers may not satisfy everyone, admin does its best to accommodate all
      - ii. problems should generally go to Dr. Yu first before higher ups to ensure the most balanced solution and approach
    - f. Mr. Shahom questions campaign for fiscal equity. He worries we will be forced to accept and have smaller classes since there are no exemptions as of now
      - i. Worried about Stuyvesant not having a plan or extending exemption

1. Yu underlined no one is going to find satellite space so we ran through some ideas, how to get more money is unclear,
2. specialized high schools get \$1000 more per additional student
  - a. Be mindful of what we're are going to ask for and be be )transparent with it
  - b. Lowered budget due to smaller freshman class will follow students around
    - i. Unsure whether DOE will maintain the budget
    - ii. Who to ask for budget must be considered as well (governed, mayor, etc)

### 3. Updates

- a. Mr. Jeremy Shahom will be the next UFT leader
- b. Principal
  1. Last day of instruction! Incredibly excited for class of 2026
  2. Solid year with tons of changes but grateful for staff who stepped up during teacher leaves
  3. Stepping up ceremony for BSL, ASPIRA with alumni from 1978
    - a. Every year, these events get bigger
    - b. One example of allowing students to find community in Stuyvesant and their own smaller communities
    - c. Prom night and similar recent events underline that Stuyvesant is a place for all students to belong
    - d. Dr. Yu emphasizes that Stuyvesant cares about the type of people we are producing; how students turn out as people reflects the type of school we wish to be
    - e. Should never be afraid to have hard conversations and have hard situations
    - f. SLT keeps community together, especially after COVID
    - g. Only seniors on 6/26
- c. Staff
  - i. Jeremy Shahom, Math Department, will lead the UFT Chapter
  - ii. Past week had senior awards
  - iii. Counselors wrapping up school year
  - iv. Preparing for graduation and summer school

- v. College essay zoom for juniors, 250 students in attendance
- vi. Presented at conference and faculty found out he would be a part of the National Admissions practice community service – Jeffrey Makris

d. Parents

- i. Pretty well with fundraising: raised and spent a lot for good causes
- ii. Approved budget at last in person general meeting
  - 1. Senior parents shared college process
  - 2. Sponsors at meeting as well supported by spring gala and college community
- iii. Appropriations approved to fund upcoming projects
  - 1. Created new budget lines for research programs, math team, and chess
- iv. Letterly will hopefully take place in the next week for college essay reviewed
- v. Next week is graduation
- vi. SLT structure staying mostly the same
- vii. Incoming new co-presidents!
- viii. Tina Li (comment): college counselor office incredibly helpful via email, informative resources, webinars, get personal attention in large school
  - 1. Election process by lottery? If so, add to Stuyvesant college profile, similar to the APs disclaimer that qualified students are unable to receive their preferred Ap

e. Students

- i. Stuyvesant blood drive last month
- ii. Junior and Senior proms
- iii. Annual sports banquet 6/12
- iv. SOS performance 6/16
- v. Knicks merch day 6/15
- vi. Caucus elections finished
- vii. ARISTA induction ceremony 6/1 with over 400 attendees
- viii. Next year's SLT cabinet established
- ix. Stuyvesant student won new yorker of the week

- celebratory video thanking Karin Sloan and Casandra Chew

4. Observer Comments

5. Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 by casandra chew

- a. Seconded by everyone!
- b. 9/29/26 is first SLT meeting