

Agenda and Minutes



P.S./I.S. 187 Hudson Cliffs School

349 Cabrini Boulevard
New York, New York 10040
Phone: 212-927-8218
www.187hudsoncliffs.org

Emel Topbas-Mejia, Principal
Dimitra Daskaris, Assistant Principal
Nicole Rodriguez, Assistant Principal

School Leadership Team (SLT) Meeting

January 20, 2026

Time: 3:30PM-5:30PM

Agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Review and Approval of December 2025 Minutes
3. Principals Updates
4. Review surveys on school culture
5. Planning for February 2026

Upcoming SLT Meetings

| | | |
|---------------|------------|------------|
| February 2026 | March 2026 | April 2026 |
| May 2026 | June 2026 | |



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School Leadership Team (SLT) Meeting
January 2026
Sign-In Sheet

| | |
|---|---------|
| Emel Topbas- Mejia <i>Principal</i> | Present |
| Conor Doyle <i>Teachers Union Representative</i> | Present |
| Travis Poelle <i>PTO Co-President</i> | Present |
| Barbara Poelle <i>PTO Co-President</i> | Present |
| Jesiel Valet <i>Teacher</i> | Present |
| Antonietta Auriemma <i>Teacher</i> | Present |
| Victor Tergilene <i>Teacher</i> | Present |
| Jomary Montesdeoca <i>Teacher</i> | Absent |
| Evie Dotolie <i>Student</i> | Absent |
| Sherry Lewkowicz <i>Parent</i> | Present |
| Kelly Ceynowa <i>Parent</i> | Absent |
| Jaci Czarnecki Thompson <i>Parent</i> | Present |
| Susan McGregor <i>Parent</i> | Absent |
| Michael Opest <i>Parent</i> | Present |



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January 2026

Sign-In Sheet

Visitors

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Sarah Sanders | Present |
| Nadiene Rodriguez | Present |

School Leadership Team (SLT) Meeting

January 20, 2026

Meeting Minutes

| Agenda Item: | Meeting Notes: |
|---|--|
| 1. Welcome! | Discussed agenda |
| 2. Review and Approval of December 2025 Minutes | Approved |
| 3. Principals Updates | <p>Ms. Sarah and Ms. Nadiene are joining from the restorative justice team to look at student survey results with us</p> <p>Attendance continues to be strong - dip before holiday break and upon return (93.3% average)</p> <p>Chronic absenteeism going down (170 - 22% of students)</p> <p>Ongoing outreach for students with chronic absenteeism</p> <p>Attendance celebration in February</p> <p>February 6th is ring day</p> <p>We hired a new teacher - Ms. Santiago 2nd grade, opened an additional ICT section</p> <p>Ms. Jenkins is the new PSW director - upcoming meetings and student voice is a big priority</p> |



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School Leadership Team (SLT) Meeting
January 20, 2026
Meeting Minutes

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| | <p>New School Safety Agent - Ms. Wilson - recent graduate of the police academy Afterschool clubs for the spring are in planning - Will begin in March Parent emails going out hopefully before break SHSAT for 7th graders in the spring New York City Urban Debate League - starting a district 6 program for Elementary (4-5) and Middle School (6-8) Ms. Mitchell for 4-5 and Ms. Auriemma & Mr. Thompson for 6-8 NYCFC - saturday soccer clinic 2 times a month - Coach Darwin Filmmaking is starting this Saturday</p> |
| 4. Review surveys on school culture | Look at "Survey Analysis" Tab |
| 5. Planning for February 2026 | — |

Survey Analysis

Analysis of Student Climate and Culture Survey (Grades 2-8)

| Grade | Noticings | Wonderings | Next Steps |
|--|---|--|--|
| 2nd - 68 students took survey - 88% of students took survey | <p>Many drawings focus on drills (lockdown, fire drill)</p> <p>More cameras</p> <p>Signage to be kind and no hitting</p> <p>Puddles</p> <p>Cushions around the school</p> <p>bugs</p> | Question 6: | |
| 3rd - 87 students took survey - 100% of students took survey | <p>100% survey completion (87 students)</p> <p>Police</p> <p>Soft lockdown (surfaces many times)</p> <p>Bug in the room</p> <p>Soccer pitch</p> <p>Kidnapping</p> <p>School is already very safe</p> <p>Allergies</p> | <p>What happened that made them feel scared? (question 8)</p> <p>How are people mean based on appearance? (Question 6-)</p> | Go over soft lockdowns with the kids?? |
| 4th - 93 students took survey - 100% of students took survey | <p>Lockdowns are mentioned again</p> <p>Firedrills</p> <p>Lockers (kids getting into lockers)</p> <p>Locked doors, protecting the school</p> <p>Students being mean to each other/bullying</p> <p>Mention of bathroom and privacy</p> <p>Security cameras</p> | | |
| 5th - 58 students | Many students prefer to not to share examples and situations | Why a lot of prefer not to say | |

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| took survey - 92% of students took survey | Soccer pitch is mentioned across most grades Name calling Shady men Lockdowns and fire drills mentioned | | |
| 6th - 88 students took survey - 90% of students took survey | Question 3 results are more spread out than other grades | | |
| 7th 88 students | Lockdown drills Jokes and rumors | Building confidence in your unique personality and who you are—how do we build up this confidence? | |
| 8th 93 students | Sexuality ICE references | What do students mean with stricter visitor protocols? | |

Question 6/7:

- The 7th grade has the highest positive percent. They really kind to each other in general
- The 2nd-4th: Are kids becoming more aware of differences in these ages?

If students were in the room, what would they want us to take seriously and focus on as a next step?

- Would be interesting to follow up with the 6th grade with sexualized and what you are screaming out loud and the jokes that are being said?
- GEneralized response about security—feeling that people are more active and proactive
- Don't be reactive—be proactive
- More discussions around what the drills mean and collective safety
- Facilitators talk to kids after lockdown across grades (after each drill—pre and post to support students)
- Respect each other
- Set up focus groups: Tap into the peer mediation groups