

**School Advisory Committee (SAC) November 2022 Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday November 14th, 2022**  
**3:45PM-4:45PM**  
**<https://pennalexander.philasd.org/school-advisory-council/>**

**In attendance:** Lauren Overton (Principal), Theresa Knight (SAC Member, School Counselor), Deidre McBride (PAS Staff), Vidya Plainfield (SAC Member), Jim Dugan (HSA President), Rebecca Geller-Puchalsky (SAC Member for SHCA), Ann Kreidle (Guest and School Partnership Manager), Lisa Lapina (PAS Faculty), Caroline Connally (Guest), Liz Wing (SAC Member & Secretary)

*SAC Officer Proposal: Liz Wing (Parent Member & SAC Secretary)*

Vidya motioned to approve new member. Rebecca seconded the motion.

*Open Forum Topic: Facilities: Traffic Safety*

Detailed agenda here:

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1u6winsWi8AZtkuJNzFfU1i0kXiuoZn20-yT4YoTyzjA/edit?usp=sharing>

1. Additional Traffic Safety discussion points:
  - a. School Zone Parking:
    - i. Do we know what is allowed under the law per signs for parking on Locust and on 43rd? We cannot employ someone to manage traffic flow during dropoff and pickup; could parents volunteer to help with traffic flow? Can Safety Patrol become involved? Can we at minimum encourage drivers to park on Locust instead of 43rd, blocking off the fire lane with cones? How can we change behavior without antagonizing drivers (or resulting in drivers double parking on the W side of 43rd)?
  - b. Speed on 43rd Street:
    - i. See if we can get our own speed gun to track speeds before city does, as community groups have done (Lincoln Drive). As far as is known no student group has gathered useful data on vehicle speed (w/Ms Kearney or otherwise)
2. Additional Traffic Safety action items:
  - a. Make a map with proposed traffic flow; flipside will have text on safety issues at stake, changes in traffic flow. Ask Penn Police to help initially with change in traffic flow.

*Open Forum*

1. Kids dropped off before school is open for at 8am breakfast
  - a. Can we find or create before care/after care to support families? Who can we partner with (PIC, YMCA)? Can we cultivate community support (ie parents, volunteers) to watch kids before school opens? Overton to talk w/Deb Green @ PIC.

### *Principal Report*

1. Attendance is lower this year than last. Ask parents for help getting kids to school and to school on time.
  - a. 8th grade has lowest attendance, 5th grade has highest
  - b. Help parents understand process for creating excused absences
  - c. Attendance gap among SES, race has closed
2. Student well-being survey
  - a. Relationship to self most challenging per survey
  - b. SEL work is being built into the day
  - c. Parent engagement night in January to help support families
3. Educating parents on how to communicate with the school.
  - a. Using "Talking Points" as translation software; possible pilot next year. Freiburg/3rd grade has experience using it
  - b. Send a list of teacher emails to all parents
4. SDP office of engagement has created a form to support parents during school conferences next week. Form will be printed & placed in pods; email with a copy of the form will be sent to families next week.
  - a. Educate parents to know that they can ask for extended time on conferences
5. Family engagement survey to be sent out next week to gauge what needs are
  - a. Engagement sessions with families to be driven by results of survey
  - b. Survey will be sent in email and printed & placed in pods for parents to fill out during conferences

*Next SAC Meeting Topic: PAS Educational Family Support Programs*

*SAC notes from 9/12/2022 were reviewed. Ann made a motion to approve, Vidya seconded.*

*Future dates: 12/12/22; 1/9/23; 2/13/23; 3/13/23; 4/10/23; 5/15/23; 6/12/23*