

## School Advisory Committee (SAC) December 2022 Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 12th, 2022

3:45PM-4:45PM

<https://pennalexander.philasd.org/school-advisory-council/>

**In attendance:** Lauren Overton (Principal), Kristen Johnson (Assistant Principal), Vidya Plainfield (SAC Chair), Jim Dugan (HSA President), Rebecca Geller-Puchalsky (SAC Member for SHCA), Ann Kreidle (PAS Partnership Manager), Lisa Lapina (PAS Faculty), Liz Wing (SAC Secretary), Amanda Diesel (Parent), Jessica McCollum (Parent)

### Update on SAC Action items: Traffic Safety & SAC FAQs

#### **Traffic Safety – Action Plan**

- Immediate Action: Target deployment before end of 2022
  - Draft of one page Drop off policy with School Map Draft created. Prior to finalizing, need to:
    - Survey parents at drop off to better understand needs
    - Determine if signage can be used in drop off areas
    - Understand benefit of dropping off students in bus zone areas to create “unloading” areas or to let cars that need to park.
    - Connect with PIC to better understand drop off parking and safety issues on 42nd st.
    - Notify PPA to ticket first few week of deployment
  - Wait for formal policy before messaging to families, or start messaging now?
  - Support is needed from staff and/or volunteers to enact dropoff management.
  - Penn Police has offered robotic messenger to use on street. Rebecca to contact head of Penn Police.
  - Communicate w/families via room parents – Liz to contact Christine Hill-Kayser
- Long Term Safety Action Plan: Apply for Neighborhood Slow Zone program through the City of Philadelphia (1-5 year process)
  - Spruce Hill Community Association collaborates with PAS & Parent Infant Center. **Make formal request from the Streets Department** initiated by a strong letter of support from Council member Gauthier.
  - Gauthier will need a strong showing of neighborhood support which would include:
    - letter of support from Spruce Hill Community Association (most important piece)
    - letter of support from the Parent-Infant Center
    - letter of support from SAC of Penn Alexander
    - a petition signed by parents of students
    - a petition signed by neighbors who live on or adjacent to 43rd St (if possible; CVS and several large landlords may not engage with Penn Alexander) a petition signed by those stakeholders
- The SAC will **identify a pro bono traffic engineer in the community to draft/stamp engineering plans** for the traffic calming measures. Without this, Streets Department will slow walk the implementation because of very scarce resources. Best to get engineering mock-ups in front of the Streets Department early while the traffic study is underway because they'll tell you all the stuff they *don't* want to do and you can work from there.
- Application due Jan-23 <http://visionzerophl.com/>, <https://slow-zone-phl.hub.arcgis.com/>

## **SAC FAQs**

- Purpose: SAC FAQ helps share the great work that has already been done to support families that many PAS community members may not know about. A one stop shop for SAC "hot-topics"
- Communication Strategy:
  - Post to the SAC website
  - Share FAQ link via pony
  - Cross link with HSA
  - Include link in every SAC pony flier
- SAC FAQ Topics:
  - Enrollment/wait list (current statistics, historical statistics, include recap of class size caps for each grade and policy for waitlist), presented as a table
  - PAS Homework Policy
  - Recess Policy/program (what to expect for new families)
    - Recess/homework policies present in PAS handbook, make link to them on SAC website
      - Student Handbook 2022-23:  
<https://pennalexander.philasd.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/579/2021/10/21-22-Student-Handbook.pdf>
  - After school club/Extracurricular programs: key dates and link to programs
  - Current PAS Algebra 1 offering and implications
  - Current PAS programs to support: special needs and gifted students
- Deployment ACTION ITEM:
  - SAC members confirm add/edit list of FAQ topics. Is this list complete?
    - Add tab to Phila SD site re: waitlist process and concerns
    - Consider monthly enrollment update at SAC meetings. Add numbers to minutes
  - Volunteer to gather materials
  - Volunteer to post materials to SAC webpage
    - Send content to Overton & Kreidle and they will send to Phila SD website

## **Open Forum Topic: Academics & Curriculum-PAS Educational Family Support Programs**

- Fall surveys: ~200 filled out in paper in-person at conferences, great success. Overton to repeat the in-person approach to survey completion in the spring.
- Overton to work on paring down & adding to website
- Common threads in survey: teaching my child math, teaching my child how to read, equity issues
  - Umberger to deliver a curriculum conversation in January with families
    - 3 support sessions: plenary session, ELA & Math representation. There will also be info for supporting kids with special needs, executive function. Childcare provided for school-age kids.
  - HSA to provide a facilitator from Missoni to talk with parents about Sex Ed content. Childcare provided for school-age kids.
  - Affinity group dinners to be launched again this spring
- How can the SAC and broader PAS community support? What are the funding, planning, advocacy and other areas of needs?
  - Can we do hybrid in-person/video? Move SAC meetings to a space where it can be made live?
    - Do an annual open forum meeting with key topics that is specifically designed to be recorded and shared online

- Parents want seamless communication between classrooms (ie Dojo vs Google Classroom etc). Can we make a universal platform for faculty?
  - Talking Points (TP) software as possible communication platform; translates content into multiple languages. TP will translate .pdfs (Google Translate does not)
    - Maddie Freiberg to pilot in spring, Overton to get feedback with families

**Guest Topics**

- Need for greater rigor in curriculum
  - Parents of 4th grade students concerned about rigor in curriculum. Discussion to be deferred to future SAC Open Topic
- Concerns about negative perception of Lea by PAS students and parents. Is there a way to bring knowledge and experience of Lea to PAS to build relationship between the schools?
  - Do we do events with Lea?
    - In past, we did a race & equity initiative w/mixed success. Both schools have busy schedules & hard to coordinate.
    - SEED program
    - Community building must be done from the perspective of marginalized communities and sustained equity work. Demands intentional planning.
    - Collaboration between K-1 classes on Lea blacktop? Initiate scouting groups that include students from both schools?

**Select February 2023 meeting Topic:** defer to January

**Approval of November Meeting Minutes** Vidya motions to approve, Rebecca seconds. Minutes approved.

*Next SAC Meeting Topic:* Building an inclusive PAS community

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

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Current Enrollment (12/12/22)</b>
K	80
1	76
2	72
3	72
4	71
5	60
6	54
7	46

8	51
---	----