

School Advisory Committee (SAC) January 2023 Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 9th, 2023
3:45PM-4:45PM

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

In attendance: Lauren Overton (Principal); Kristen Johnson (Assistant Principal); Diedre McBride (PAS Staff); Vidya Plainfield (SAC Chair); Jim Dugan (HSA President); Rebecca Geller-Puchalsky (SAC Member for SHCA); Ann Kreidle (PAS Partnership Manager); (PAS Faculty); Liz Wing (SAC Secretary); Jessica Villanueva-McCollum (Parent); Michelle Papachristou (Parent)

Update on SAC Action items: Follow up on December items

Traffic Safety – Action Plan

- Neighborhood Slow Zone application has been submitted. Low likelihood of being approved at present due to crash data; submitting application will give us an opportunity to talk about the process and have conversations w/community members
 - Traffic Safety blurb to be written by Becca & submitted to website

SAC FAQs

- Currently updating SAC website
- Math Curriculum night video link will be in next Epony

Open Forum Topic: Building an inclusive PAS community

- Affinity Group dinners to continue this spring
- BLM week of action starting Feb. 6th
- We are doing things to improve equity at PAS that are research-based and survey (students, families) based.
- SPD will put out an equity report card this year.
 - Black students at PAS fare better than the national average; there is still work to be done.
 - Metrics are based on incremental growth from prior years amongst subgroups.
 - These are the goals that administration is focusing on this year.
 - Admin uses student surveys to guide equity programming.
- What is the capacity of teachers to engage in culturally responsive programming, race & equity practices?
 - Teachers supported w/specialized PD and equity coaching
 - Focus on identity this year. What does a family look like? What is culture/how is yours expressed?
- Scheduling with workshops, programs has been difficult due to our calendar vs their calendar
- Focus on: English language learners.
 - There is an achievement gap here. How can we support these kids & their families?
- Neurodiversity. Can we create a support group for parents & kids around this?
 - We can talk w/Mr Johnson, other staff & paraprofessionals about creating a group, leading a discussion, hosting events at PAS
 - How can we connect families? How can PAS & SAC provide support?

- Can host playdates at the school/playground
- We have the resources – now we need to build capacity
 - Takes time and accountability to do inclusion work
- Can we make Equity Circle a working group of SAC?
 - How to integrate Equity Circle work w/HSA & SAC
 - Make EC a monthly agenda item for SAC
- Can we do a “Did You Know...?” with a link for questions/comments, create the ability for parents to connect & communicate
 - Can we make a digital equity corner – a resource center for families?
 - Weekly for the Epony; permanent on website
- How do we support the adults who are supporting children?

Principal Report

- Math curriculum night tonight and Family Night on 1/23 – aim is to “peel back curtain” for parents to see what’s going on at PAS curriculum-wise, opportunity to engage & ask questions
- Last pring: investing in affinity spaces for POC; we will do this again this upcoming spring w/affinity dinners
- Shout out to HSA for facilitating Sadie Mossel Tanner birthday celebration, launching Trailblazer award, including Delta Sigma Theta alums
- Feb 6 BLM week of action – 3rd year doing this – teachers have come together to create K-8 appropriate curriculum for the event
- Black Student Union lunch may be pushed to spring due to low participation. Staff & faculty will speak to students directly about participation. Parents asked for this event last spring at affinity dinners; how can we get more involvement? Are there competing activities?
 - There are 80 black students across the whole school. Cultivating affinity between Black students is important
- State level academic goals: on track to meet
- Attendance: not on track to meet. Parents need to understand that vacation is not an excused absence.
- February: PAS will initiate an “attendance report card”. Kids will get a goal sheet monthly, tracking their attendance with w/info about the importance of sending kids to school, i.e. 9 day deficit rule. (FWIW PAS has the highest attendance rate in SDP)
 - Kristen & Teresa to help with goal sheet.
 - Robocall to notify parents that sheets are coming home.
 - Can we also do a mail blast w/attendance info? Epony? Robocall?
- Next CwP (Coffee w Principal) will include data about attendance and academic metrics

Approval of December Meeting Minutes

Ann motions to approve; Vidya seconds, minutes approved.

Next SAC Meeting Topic: Building an inclusive PAS community, part 2

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

Grade	Current Enrollment (1/9/23)
K	80
1	76
2	72
3	72
4	71
5	60
6	54
7	46
8	51