

School Advisory Committee (SAC) March 2023 Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 13th, 2023

3:45PM-4:45PM

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

In attendance: Lauren Overton (Principal); Theresa Knight (PAS Counselor); Vidya Plainfield (SAC Chair); Ann Kreidle (PAS Partnership Manager); (PAS Faculty); Liz Wing (SAC Secretary); Michelle Papachristou (Parent); Keya Brame (PFT); Jim Dugan (HSA President)

Update on SAC Action Items: SAC FAQs

- SAC FAQs are [LIVE on website!](#)

Neurodiversity Day Initiative Update

- Meeting with parents, faculty, and staff held in late February to talk about an agenda for Neurodiversity Day
 - Draft presentation created during the meeting
- Presentation will be at Coffee w/Principal on Wednesday, 3/29 @8:45am
- There will be a call to action for those who may want to connect with other families (via Google form)

Principal Report, Open Forum

- We are officially in the midst of budget season!
 - Budget projections have been & will be shared at Coffee w/Principal (CwP)
 - [ARPA funds](#) (COVID funds) have been cut in half. This was how we funded our Asst. principal and our intervention specialist
 - Next year, there will be NO ARPA funds (that's city-wide). We will be -100k next year
 - Intervention specialist position to be cut
 - We will, through Penn Partnership, replace position with a tutoring partnership.
 - SDP tutoring: only offers virtual group sessions; we want 1:1 support
 - Academic clubs will continue to provide support. We will continue to have intervention support through Ms. Umberger & Ms. Trusty
 - HSA funding is critical to fill in the gaps & maintain status quo of the school
 - We cannot afford a new teacher: SDP formula is highest paid teacher salary plus benefits = the "cost" of a teacher = 136k per teacher. This salary is not representative of most teachers
 - 6 positions at PAS exist due to Penn Partnership
 - We spend less per kid here because we are "high achieving". Average here is 14k per kid vs 16k per kid citywide
 - i.e. Lea has 150 fewer kids than us, but more \$ in their budget in Title 1 funding – funding for student need
- We will need parent advocacy next year for more funds. What can the school community do?
 - Best way to make change here is through the interest convergence of multiple school communities

- Schools need more counselors and social workers, paid out of operating budget, not auxiliary funds
- Attend/observe [School Board meetings](#)
 - Next SDP Budget Hearing is on 4/20/23
 - When does SDP go to City Council?
 - SDP is changing to a regional model, there will be restructuring in the next year
- Mayoral race this year – effectively decided this May (Democratic primary election: 5/16/23) Remember, superintendent is appointed by mayor – we could have new superintendent
- Ask mayor candidates: where do they stand on funding? What will you do for our school community, including funding, facilities, maintenance?
 - Can we make talking points for ePony?
- We need parents to fill out the district’s curriculum feedback form: ELA or Math
 - When parents provide feedback on their school’s curriculum, SDP will cut some of the costs
 - We can connect re: survey through room parents. Overton to craft email for room parents
- Parent Surveys are coming up!
 - We need greater than 75% participation! Currently we are at 50%.
 - PAS receives points from the district for survey completion
 - While there’s already a lot of family participation at PAS, we will ONLY get points based on completing the survey!!
 - Points from the district give us a district-wide rating, including a building score, which is used for the budget
 - It is a critical opportunity for families to give the school feedback. We can break down the survey demographically to create concrete benefits in the school community & environment.
 - It helps us to make things visible that are not visible
 - It helps us to teach our teachers, so we know what your experience is and we can be responsive to that experience
 - Family surveys are due by the end of the year.
 - Overton will be at family conferences to get people to do them in person
 - What are other opportunities to get people to do it?
 - Paper printout to go home w/kids; email sent via room parents; ePony; computers stationed at packet pickup for 5k, musical, spaghetti dinner

Approval of February Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve minutes by Vidya, seconded by Michelle; minutes approved

Next SAC Meeting Topic: Open Forum

Future Dates: 4/10/23, 5/15/23, 6/12/23

Grade	Current Enrollment (3/13/2023)
K	80

1	76
2	72
3	72
4	71
5	60
6	54
7	46
8	51