

School Advisory Committee (SAC) December 2024 Meeting Minutes

Monday, December 16th, 2024

3:45PM-4:45PM

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

In attendance: Lauren Overton (Principal), Diedre McBride (PAS faculty), Rochelle Johnson (PAS faculty, PFT Representative), Ann Kreidle (PAS Partnership Manager), Vidya Plainfield (SAC vice-chair, parent), Chanell Bates (SAC chair, parent), Rebecca Geller-Puchalsky (SAC Member for SHCA, parent), Jessica McCollum (SAC member, parent), Liz Wing (SAC Secretary, parent), Susie Pierce (HSA President, parent), Cory Walker (HSA Treasurer, parent), Josh Sabloff (HSA Room Parent Coordinator, parent), Zoey Dougherty (HSA Teacher Appreciation Committee chair, parent)

Principal Report

- Finished 2nd round of assessments today
 - Math scores are up 9%
 - ELA increase up 3%
 - 96% of kids taking Algebra passed the Algebra Keystone
 - We are currently exceeding the state's 2030 goals for academic standards
 - Attendance: 95% of kids meeting goal
 - We are contacting families who need support around attendance
- Continuing our equity work with teacher PLCs & book clubs
- Penn GSE students in their School Leadership Program met with our kids to get their feedback
- Climate survey w/kids: we had one of the highest scores for student/adult relationships
- Interims went home last week
- We are doing a special ed audit to look at inclusion in the classroom
- We are hosting the superintendent & board members on 1/14 for a "Day in the Life" experience
- SMTA day coming up
 - Ms Pam & Dr. Foy working on a mural mock-up of a banner for the side of the school representative for SMTA
- Operation Snowball happening tomorrow... toy donations for every kid in Philadelphia
- Update on HS placement will happen in February

Open Forum: Teacher Support & Appreciation

- What HSA already does:
 - Breakfast spread during PD week & a check for supplies.
 - December/June: fundraising \$\$ for cash gifts
 - Mid-year supplies refresh
 - May: teacher & all staff appreciation week
 - Pay for dinner when teachers stay late for an event
 - HSA pays for leadership/holiday retreat.
- Think about:
 - Letter writing campaign
 - Room parents can facilitate this
 - Organized by grade/homeroom

- February/March
 - List of people to get a per grade/class
- Teacher retention is up, teacher attendance is up
- Staff meeting on January 3rd
 - We can ask staff *how* (not if) people feel appreciated & what makes them feel appreciated
 - We need to get more information from staff about what they want from families
- In the past, teachers have counted this time of year to be most stressful (holidays, caretaking over the break)
- Paraprofessional day is Wednesday April 2nd. What can we do for PP day in 2025?
 - Is there a calendar for appreciation days? Can we set this up for 2025-2026?
 - Can we do shout-outs for these days?
- Accessing Room Parents more.
 - Room parents have a \$200 budget this year
 - We need to create a list of things that room parents can do
- Supplying food/breakfast on interim & end of quarter days
- Night event: curriculum night, or more conferences?
 - Conferences preferred

Pedestrian Plaza update

- Plaza is done!
- UC District to promote this work
 - What can we do to thank UCD?
 - Photo gift of appreciation
- Plaza to be named Alicia's Corner, in honor of our crossing guard

Approval of 11/24 Meeting Minutes

Becca motions to approve; Chanell seconds. Minutes approved.

Reminder: Next Meeting Dates

1/13 (2nd Monday; no school 3rd Monday; rep elections), 2/10 (2nd Monday; no school 3rd Monday), 3/17, 4/21, 5/19 (placeholder)

Grade	Current Waitlist (12/16/24)
K	9
1	6
2	18
3	27
4	33

5	28
6	36
7	17
8	14

Waitlist numbers are posted monthly in the SAC notes. For questions about the waitlist, contact the PAS office at 215-400-7760. Please see the school's statement on enrollment here:

<https://pennalexander.philasd.org/enrollment/>