

PAS School Advisory Committee (SAC) March 2025 Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 17th, 2025

3:45PM-4:45PM

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

In attendance: Lauren Overton (Principal), Ann Kreidle (PAS Partnership Manager), Theresa Knight (PAS Faculty), Susie Pierce (HSA President, parent), Rochelle Johnson (PAS faculty, PFT Representative), Chanell Bates (SAC chair, parent), Jessica McCollum (SAC member, parent), Ashley Umberger (PAS Faculty/ Speaker)

Approval of 2/25 minutes

Jessica motions to approve minutes, Rochelle seconds. Minutes approved.

Principal Report

General Updates

- Past Events
 - Affinity Meeting: Know Your Rights Presentation
 - Sadie Alexander Celebration
- High School Selection (Ms Knight)
 - As of this meeting, 100% of 8th grade students were accepted into a criteria-based high school of their choice
 - Overall, the process was much smoother this year (regular updates/reports each Monday). Adjustment from prior year where feedback was given about offers that went out during winter break
 - **Note:** School selection information shared in the previous meeting was likely too early/not completely accurate. Flag for the future so the notes are correct
- Kindergarten (80 seats)
 - 74 sign-ups this year. So not necessary for lottery this year.
 - Enrollment goes through the summer so LO anticipates being fully enrolled by start of school
 - PAS community has higher rate of rentals (low owner occupied homes) and the school was on the list for a demographic review prior to the pandemic

Upcoming Events

- Math Festival This Week
- Start of School Year FY 26: Staff return on August 18th, Students return on August 25th
 - Communication to families about the details of days off. Will put in the summer packet for families from last year
 - Was voted and published later this year (late Feb). Feedback given to SDP to ensure the calendar needs to come out sooner
- Parent Experience Survey (EOY)
- HSA Elections for FY 2026
 - Seeking: President, Fundraising Chair, Upper School Events Coordinator, Co-VP
 - HSA Maintains an overview of roles and details, estimated time commitments.

Open Forum: School Budget Review, Parent Funding Advocacy

Budget

- The School District will have a \$400 million deficit in FY 26 and Union contracts are up for review (Admin, Teachers).
 - Advocacy/Parent Action: Contact state reps re: Equitable Funding Model
- PAS Budget was loaded on 3/10. Met with departments (Title 1, Labor Relations...etc) to understand resources. FY 26 Budget is based on enrollment of 620 students
 - New Roles/Staffing Adjustments
 - Generalist SBTL
 - Two Intervention Teachers: English and Math
 - Special Education (Autistic Support) role added based on number of students needing AS Support, Also comes with additional 1-1 staff member to support students
 - Seeking for FY 26:
 - Classroom Teachers PK-4, K-6 Certified Teacher
 - Desire for families to share with their networks
 - Specific grades will be confirmed after internal movement happens
 - PAS Teacher Selection Committee: R. Johnson, K. Brame, A. Bennett, J. McCullom, Mr. Johnson (SPED Only)
 - Additional Resources:
 - EC funds (grant-funded) added back into the operating budget
 - Illustrative Math added at no cost
 - Amplify (??) for science
- Budget projections shared with staff, community. Follow-up meetings Monday and Thursday
- Additional update in the budget section about enrollment because of drop in students transitioning after 4th grade, larger middle school. Top heavy and will need solutions for structure of middle schools (when they split to homeroom).
- FY 26 Staff Budget Survey: themes/areas that surfaced include:
 - More common/collaborative planning time
 - Partnership with parents, communication strategies
 - Shared decision-making
 - Staff recognition
 - Teacher - Teacher expertise and resource-sharing
 - Focused School-wide SEL
 - Executive functioning for MS students (professional learning and supports)
 - Hygiene and physical health in younger grades (need potentially in 4-5th)
 - Town halls for grade groups
 - Enhance PD on a focus on diverse learners and instructional strategies - extended learning for teachers around culturally responsive teaching
 - Strengthen Intervention and Academic Support Systems
 - Schools Facilities, Materials, and General Options
 - HSA will pay for water fountain

Field Project/Roadways

- Budget: \$500,000 estimate
- Application is for \$250,000, with match that comes through the HSA
- Irrigation, Social Seating, Grass, Temporary Fencing
- Outstanding Questions: Ongoing Maintenance, PIC contribution (?)
- Outstanding Question about Speed Bumps: Any initial data about impact of those bumps on speed around the school.

Staff Speaker: Ashley Umberger/Math Support

- 6th year at PAS, 14th year teaching, Currently a math intervention teacher at PAS
- Ms Umberger presented data on math performance over the past few years and noted her concern with representation of math content during leadership team meetings without a MATH SBTL position.
- Follow-up: How will math content be represented at the leadership table for school?

Next Meeting 4/17/25

Supporting Family Connection

ADD: Summer Planning/Summer Reading

Reminder: Next Meeting Dates

4/21, 5/19 (placeholder)

Grade	Current Waitlist (3/17/25)
K	13
1	6
2	21
3	30
4	34
5	29
6	36
7	18
8	19

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/>