

**JRM SAC Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2024**

📄 **January 3 SAC Meeting Minutes APPROVED.pdf**

📄 **February 7 SAC Meeting APPROVED Minutes.pdf**

**Roll Sheet Link- Sign In Sheet:** [March Roll Sheet](#)

**Facilitator - Roll call of SAC members:**

<i>Parent Members</i>		<i>Admin &amp; Staff Members</i>		<i>Community Members</i>		<i>Students SGA reps</i>	
Sam Vitiello (F)	P	Dr. Payne	P	Carolotta Stafford	P	Candelaria Beatty(HS)	P
Lauren Bell (S)	P	Ms. Solomon	P			Izzy Siverman (MS)	P
Aubrey White (O)	P	Ms. Gray	P				
Michael Wang	P	Ms. Neu	P				
Kristine Ho	A	Ms. Geiger	P				
Anne Dorn	P	Dr. Alberti	P				
Marte Smith	A						
Eva Anderson	A	<b>Admin Team</b>					
		Ms. Harrison	A				
		Ms. Lennon	P				
		Mr. Gilken	P				

**Sharing of Agenda-** [March 6 SAC Agenda](#)

To submit a topic to be placed on the agenda next SAC meeting please use: [SAC Input Form](#)

**1. Welcome and Approval of Minutes:** [February 7 SAC Meeting APPROVED Minutes.pdf](#)

**Motions to Pass: Mike Wang Seconded: Aubrey White Motion Passed**

**2. Rules and Norms- SAC -** [SAC Purpose / Norms Slide](#)

[Board of Education: Policy 920 regarding SACs](#)

**3. SAC Update: Facilitator:**

Pre-SAC Meeting (Wed, 2/28) with AS Gordon Update: [Pre-SAC with Mr. Gordon summary and notes 2/28](#)

Masterman Musical

Parent Volunteers: [Masterman Volunteer Interest Form 2024](#)

Title 1 Meeting

Follow up Meeting after the meeting with leaders at 440 of SAC and HSA leadership with AS Gordon March 5

**SAC Elections Update:** We have 4 positions that need to be filled for 2024-25. SAC Organizer will update on the process and timeline.

Organizer responsible for running SAC elections will coordinate with Dr. Payne and Ms. Mimi Gravley FACE rep to get the process started. Two SAC members will step down at the end of the year as they will no longer have a student enrolled at Masterman next year and 2 SAC members are finishing out their 2 year terms. The proposal is to open up elections for 4 positions for 2-year terms.

#### 4. Update from Principal Dr Jeannine Payne:

Introducing Cass Arrington: the new DEI coordinator from Heights.

Schedule/Roster Update:

**Ms. Lennon:** Yes. So good afternoon, everyone. Thank you for joining us today. As AS Gordon, Dr. Payne and everyone has mentioned we are phasing in phases over the next few SAC meetings going to be discussing the scheduling and where we are. And I do apologize. I wasn't able, you know, AS Gordon is such a busy person so we weren't able to connect for me to formalize the presentation. But I will put all of this in writing I just wanted to make sure I was aligned with central office then you know and also school administration was aligned in our communication. So I can give you an overview and where we are now. So the first part of

**Facilitator:** Would you need to share your screen, Ms. Lennon, should I give you access for that?

#### **How a schedule is built**

**Ms. Lennon:** I don't we weren't able to come together to give you the formal presentation. We'll send it out. I just wanted to give you an overview of how scheduling works. Right now we are in process so I'm kind of leading more of the logistical work over building next year's schedule and so in the first part of building a schedule, our course offerings, as you all are aware, you saw in the announcements. The first step is that when we're building a master schedule, we have to first identify the needs of the students. We prioritize because we're a high school we have to make sure that we have the courses and the the courses to graduate students off of the PA state and district requirements, which are the 23.5. So rostering starts there first, since we do have a high school.. And then for elementaries we also make sure that we are following the board guidelines of instructional minutes. So those are kind of the first thing that we have to first think about before we build a schedule is actually having the courses to offer or in other words, the classes to offer the students so they can matriculate. And so with that being said, as you know, families, for our high school families, you know, we start there first because we do have a high school and a middle school. So we start with the high school because they have to meet the state requirements in the PA and the district graduation requirements. So we did course offerings, that information has gone out over about two or three weeks now families have received that students have selected their courses. Right now where we are in the course selection process with our seniors. We have to obviously prioritize seniors first and making sure they have all of the courses they need to graduate next June and so they are getting the courses done. So right now they were given options. They were given what their options were and now what their options are. And then when that happens, decide if and that's what I mean by when I say options. I'm talking about the eight assists on the AP courses. And then after that, they're going to now get another round of selecting their electives. And once all of that is done then we go to our juniors and our juniors will then be notified of their course offerings and then we titrate from there down to our 10th and to our ninth graders. And again, we've sent that out, you know, please see Dr Payne's email about course offerings. So that is where we are once all of the courses and when I mean by courses like how many sections of biology how many sections or how many periods of you know of math we need, then we then take all of those needs and put it into like a big puzzle board right? For like a better, for just for someone to visualize this.

#### **Lunches:**

**Ms. Lennon:** And then and but one of the key things where we are now is before we do anything, we have to identify our lunches. So before we can build the schedule before we can determine how many periods all of those different things, there are things in a schedule that are fixed. And then all the courses and the class placements surround fixed items and the fixed things is that we have to do is provide food right for all of our students. And so that is always prioritized first and then from there, we then place the classes and then we have contractual restraints and different things like that, which we'll explain in the next meeting. But right now the conversation where we are which we know which was a topic effect of many for much of the beginning of the school year is lunches and so we are numerically remaining the same next year. So for the most part the same number of students will be in the building. I don't have that in front of me. But obviously we have repurposed because we are now increasing in size and our ninth grade in our high school collectively is growing and that is due to a district policy. And that has an impact. And again, if you are new or the first time on SAC, there's so many previous agenda items

talking there's so many committees that goes into detail. I don't want to make this a longer meeting going back into those details. So please just see the previous notes that has been provided for you in the chat to discuss all of these items. What is in front of you today are two things that we want to talk about when it gives to the SAC. We have said we are going to have five lunches as we currently do now but the one and also introducing and I know AS Gordon and this is where I do need you to fill in the gap because I wasn't I don't know the outcome of the the previous meetings you had with the community, but I did have already made mentioned before that we will be having two high school lunches. So Dr. Dawson, AS

#### **High School Lunch:**

**Ms. Lennon:** Gordon has confirmed there will be two high school lunches next year and the reason for having to will the reason for our lunch sizes is due to a few things. Number one fire code. So our actual lunch room has the capacity of 350 students. We most recently just had a fire due to something that happened in the lunchroom. And so a fire that started in the lunchroom and so one of the things that we have to even more adhere to, due to the fact we just had a fire. The fire marshal came in and did the examination and everything like that is due to the fact we must maintain 350 Students rostered at max into the actual lunch room at all times. So with that being said, that is honestly one of the main reasons is to make sure we're adhering to the fire codes of the building. And so we will have two lunches.

#### **Grade Distribution for Lunches:**

**Ms. Lennon:** In the midst of that just being transparent. We have like we've engaged in conversations with students. I actually talked to SGA last, last SGA and administration meeting I mentioned it to you we actually got you know into details about what the lunch orders will look like. The SGA, I believe I know one of you from the SGA are on this call. We did have a meeting to kind of talk through so this was you know, a conversation that we first talked to our students about, especially our older students and our SGA or high school students about the impact and you know, understanding why you know, we have to have they provided suggestions of what lunches could look like. And you know, I'm going to share the suggestions. We I would say we the we is in AS Gordon, administration and our students SGA are in agreeance of the lunch order, which would be ninth and 10th grade as a lunch period 11th and 12th graders as a lunch period, fifth and sixth as a lunch period, seventh grade as a lunch period and eighth grade as a lunch period. All of those numerically are under the 350 capacity. So we have met the requirements of our fire code. When you do the numerical number of how many students are rostered to the cafeteria at one given time for lunch. So that does work for us. So that are those are the five lunches. That is step one. So the five lunches will be ninth and 10th grade combined 11th and 12th grade combined eighth grade by themselves. Fifth and Sixth combines and seventh grade. So those are the actual lunches who will be at lunch.

#### **Order of the Lunches:**

**Ms. Lennon:** So the next thing after that is the order of the lunches which you know many of us with the seventh graders eating first who's going to eat first and things like that. So in conversations in conjunction with our SGA we did discuss and they presented when they originally we actually said ninth grade by themselves and 10 to 12. But our students actually said it would be best they recommend to just that we do ninth and 10th and 11th and 12th and so we are 100% in a line agreement so you know based on the feedback from our students, we will be going to ninth and 10th and 11th and 12 but the order of the lunches and that is next up so we know that there's implications of who eats first and you know, having so many classes and hearing the feedback from the Teaching and Learning committee, the recommended and this is where we are opening it up to the community. In fact, the recommended order of lunches would be ninth and 10th eating first 11th and 12th graders eating second. Eighth graders eating third, fifth and sixth then seventh historically at Masterman it's usually eighth graders have eaten last outside of it. You know that's always been the case they've been the last to eat. So that is open we can interchange seventh and eighth graders who eat first but and then also to if any one of our students want to say why they made that recommendation. It's the best I would love to you know, have the students speak about why they would prefer them eating earlier. If any one of you would like to come off chat off mute right now and speak about our conversation. You guys can at this time. Is anybody from SGA here?

**SGA President:** I can talk a little bit about it. Maybe I think Marissa is also here. Maybe she wants to add, but I think one of the concerns was, Well, historically, like the high school has eaten third period. And that allowed for students to not miss clubs and activities and things that were happening during lunch when they had sports and had to leave early. So I think that's probably a reason. But if any other high schoolers want to add I think that there was also the economic.

**SGA Events Chair:** Another thing that we had mentioned about the lunches being earlier is that high school lunches historically have been third period and I think that a lot of people are kind of just used to that early morning, lunch period

where you can eat them. And then also, the high school teachers seem to be much more flexible about eating during class time. So like, if students get hungry later in the day, that isn't as much of an issue that that tends to be like a larger issue this year for the seventh graders. I think that was it.

#### **Discussion**

**Ms. Lennon:** So with the recommendation, hearing the feedback out this year, so administration, it will be offering ninth and 10th graders, the first 11th and 12th graders the second and then so what as it pertains to high school, so we heard that feedback. That would be the recommendation on the table. We're definitely you know, I know that students, but I did also mention that because middle school wasn't involved, so we heard you know, an SGA is high school. We wanted to make sure we heard the concerns of the recommendation from middle school families. In about the recommended lunch order.

**SAC faculty member:** Will there be seven periods or eight periods in terms of like, regarding what time's lunch actually starts?

**Ms. Lennon:** So that has not been defined yet or definitive that answer is not but I know that the difference in times when we looked at putting it with seven periods and eight periods. Difference in times is about 30 Almost 40 minutes later. So that has not been determined. But even if it is, it would still be like 30 or 40 minutes a little bit later in the day, if there's seven versus eight periods, but I just don't have that. That's not been finalized yet.

**SAC faculty member:** I was just saying just because second period begins at 9: 12. And third period begins at 10: 07. So that's like almost an hour. So if lunches started third and ran through seventh, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh. That would be later and later so I was just trying to figure out the times. Thank you all.

**Ms. Lennon:** I appreciate that and to your point, you're correct but the previous even with the previous eight period schedule historical one. So you know, we didn't have five lunches. So regardless, that's the thing. So regardless, somebody's going to eat at a nine ish whether it's later nine or earlier nine it's still going to be nine ish, but because we have five lunches.

**SAC faculty member:** So regarding lunches would always be second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, whether we have a seven period day or an eight period day.

**Ms. Lennon:** That is correct. Um, yes. Correct. So, so, yes. So somebody's always been putting out because we have to have five lunches so yes. So, but to what some of the students said, high schoolers you know, and there we, you know, the reasons that were mentioned on here, you know, you know, we felt that it would still be okay. So, any other middle school feedback, I guess that's the one question we have. And so also clubs, so I know some families have asked as these things buzzing in the chat, I'm trying not to get distracted as it pertains to clubs. Clubs can only happen for school after school or during lunches. There will still be lunch clubs happening at all lunches because we have fifth grade clubs, you have sixth grade clubs, you have you know, lunches, we have clubs that every lunch anyway, I think, you know what I did mention specifically like SGA or somebody like that clubs that have like a whole like are required to have like a nine through 12 presence, you know, what would they work out and they've kind of talked out how that can look. But it also depends on who's going to sponsor next year and different things like that.

**Parent:** My question is in that chat. So you could answer it there if you want. It was just asking because the seventh graders have a break next year because my seventh grader is the first you know, early early morning. And now it sounds like they're going to be the very end of the day and is there any way that you know, the seventh graders from this year don't have to be at the extreme next year just to know well?

**Ms. Lennon:** Yeah, so somebody has to eat last right. And so the seventh graders this year are not eating at the end. Actually. They're eating in the middle. So next year, okay. 7th graders, who are going to be eighth graders, will be eating in the middle of the day.

**Parent:** So I'm a parent of a high schooler, but I'm now specifically talking about high school lunch. So I just realized there's a fire code nice, something new to me. So I remember before the COVID there for lunch period. Total in the school. I don't know which one is the first and which one is the last. But I think I mean, for the high school. We probably have to be creative this year. But in terms of middle school, can we change a little bit if I'm now against anyone? I don't want to, you know, offensive to anyone can make two fifths and the seventh grade together, sixth and eighth grade together so that we don't have to have five lunch periods we can only have 4 lunch periods. It may be better for many reasons. That's what I'm thinking right now. Because sixth grade has less students and seventh has more students, right? If you combine seventh and eighth together, there may be more than the fire code allowed but if we do five and seven together, but I'm not sure if that's easy for the roster. I'm just thinking that maybe another option but for high school, because my kids in high school I know there's so many clubs running across the grades. I really hope students from ninth grade to 12th grade can stay together, have lunch together, for example, the Science Olympiad they meet you know, only a few times per week. They really work together and try to go through the regional go to the states for such a small school. It's very hard for all the kids to work together to get things done. So I hope we can find a way you know if it's possible. For example, some students can take turns to grab lunch, eat in the hallway or the roof like before, and they share the same lunch period that will benefit everyone, I think. Thank you.

**Dr. Payne:** Thank you for your support before. They're like an official address that we're going through. I want to make sure that there are two things that are understood out loud. We understand that even as of today not every student that is rostered to a lunch actually goes to the lunchroom. We are all aware. However, the space has to be provided. The roster can't show that there is more like I get and I have seen the wheels turning and the people like you know if only 100 students ever eaten a lunch room then you know why can't you roster we are not allowed. There has to be what is provided and roster equivalent to what we are allowed to do. So that number is our cap. And even though we know that that number is not occupying the space at most given times, it has to be and we can talk about with whom and where that came from. But as far as it is for us and at this stage, that is how it has to be rostered. The other thing that I want to bring up is I want to make sure that as people begin to strategize which we encourage, please keep in mind that if we are trying to preserve the structure for next year, the very near year after that, ninth grade will increase again. Then there will be two additional sections that the ninth grade will continue. Inevitably this is happening. The question is when do we start so that we can make the best interpretation of it. We will not end with the structure of the school. It is changing now and continuing to change over the next three years. If I'm not mistaken. Please some please correct me if I'm wrong there will not be able to maintain a common high school lunch. I do not want to be you know I don't want to appear to be oppositional and that couldn't possibly discuss and tweak to maybe next year. It's fully possibly for next year. But it won't be the year after that. Impossible the year after that. The school due to the restructuring not through a decision or determination by administration. Not due to a conflict like literally the size and the organization of the school as it changed will not allow this to continue to happen. And so the decision which we hear, AS Gordon is here to support and decide is how we work on making it the best interpretation of it. And for us that is starting now or starting for next year's schedule. And so of what Miss Lennon is proposing, order of lunches, reason for lunches. This is we're putting this out now because as stated going all the way back. This is how, this is the first thing we line up before we can start plugging in the holes for classes. So that those were actually just statements, feel free to respond. I'm in the chat, you know, as Ms. Lennon is presenting, but I want to make sure that those two points are just clear. They are statements of/ how we address/ respond to the other things that people are thinking about.

**Ms. Lennon:** real quick. One person did not get to say anything which is super crucial. Mr. Gilken, are you still on?

**Mr. Gilken:** So one of the things that came up in the discussion was this idea of collapsing five and seven and six and eight and I just wanted to say you know, um, as climate manager, you know, who supervises lunch and recess - Both developmentally and space wise that's just not possible. We have a very limited playground on the roof. That we are trying to maximize use of, and I would not be comfortable with having a full cohort, a whole cohort of seventh graders out with the full cohort of fifth graders, a full cohort of eighth graders out with sixth graders. The things that happened in eighth grade lunch are drastically different than the things that happen in sixth grade lunch. And, just for space, so that's not it at all. And here's what I will say about the reality of the situation, because there's a lot of conversation about high school clubs right now. The reality of the situation is of the clubs that met today, many of them didn't have their sponsor in the room. Right? These

kids are figuring out ways to do this. And I suspect moving forward with regard to our lunch structure, we will figure out ways to do this. It makes me sad to say this because my boss is on here and my boss's boss is on here. But as dean and climate manager I've helped our kids facilitate ways to maintain their clubs that are so deeply important to them, knowing that at times there wouldn't be the adult in the room. And so I suspect some of this, if not all of it, but some of this is much ado about nothing right Masterman clubs, survive transitions. And let's talk about the reality of what Masterman high school lunches, which is six rooms with kids doing clubs with no adults, and it's trustworthy and it works and it's a liability and much of that's on me and Miss Lennon and Dr. Payne, and we make it work. So just let's be clear about what is going on before we sort of walk down into a Kurt Vonnegut novella of a conversation that's not actually the reality of what we are experiencing in our building.

**Parent:** I just wanted to ask a clarifying question. So we had eighth grade for next year starting at sixth period having a sixth period. Lunch, just a clarifying question is that at 12:56

**Ms. Lennon:** The timing is not defined yet until we have the periods but it would be so eighth grade next year would be middle of the day. So I cannot give you that until the periods are defined.

**Parent:** Okay, fair enough. And just as a fact is for consideration the sports teams on behalf of middle school and I do realize they're few of them in middle school, but they still exist. If they do away games, they tend to leave or they gather to leave at 1:15. So just a fact for maybe that's changing too. But just a consideration.

**Ms. Lennon:** Yeah, so that part is a central office that's downtown because that's centrally how athletics is scheduled for the school district of Philadelphia, so we don't have control over the time that they leave. But yes, you know, typically, on a regular day, you know, some games start later than others. States is way after school just depends on the season in the sport. But yeah, students would be missing a class or two at the end of the day to go to their sport.

**Parent:** So I have three points. The first and I just want to harken back to the time when I was the HSA president and I was actually changing our bylaws. We as a group are changing our bylaws and sort of doing things in a new way, different way looking at things sort of deep in a deeper way. And there were people in the community who rightfully had ideas and thoughts. But sometimes when the thoughts become so granular, we would get email after email after email with 20 questions, which took so much time, valuable time that maybe we should have been looking at sort of the macro picture that you can get caught by doing that. And so as I'm listening to these conversations, all of the questions and concerns are valid, but I just sort of encouraged parents to be families, whatever to be patient and allow, let's say, administration, to look at the macro and not get tangled in the web, smaller questions that will come after, or else we can never really make progress in a way. So that that would just be sort of the first thing. The second is just to sort of say that you know, my observation is that this administration has been tasked with I don't want to say an impossible set of circumstances, but so many things in this school have changed over the last four years because of district changes at the highest level. And that precedes and predates, AS Gordons, Dr. Watlington. But nonetheless, they've had a lot of effects on this school. And so as we see this administration trying to let's say navigate what's best for all students. The circumstances and the conditions that exist in this school are very different than what existed previously. So just to sort of like raise that up. And you know, also to say I think it's really wonderful that AS Gordon is here, as a support of all of us, not as sort of like I believe, you know, it's not an override, it's not a let's check on or check up on. But just as we support each other to move forward with the best path. So sorry for taking all of that time, but I hope people kind of understand when I'm trying to say thanks.

**Parent:** If this is too much to put in this part of the conversation, please don't hesitate to say but some of what Dr. Payne was talking about with what's going to happen over the next three years is news to me. And sounds inevitable in a way that is also surprising. Is there a way to sum up what that is supposed to be? Because my hope would be that what happened this year with ninth grade, that something with admissions would get tweaked for next year so that it didn't happen again. Is that kind of thing inevitable? What is the plan for the next three years that we're trying to design around?

**Mr. Gordon:** I assume it is enrollment that you are referring to? So this is all conceptual. So just you know, just just follow along. Now, obviously, you know, things can change from year to year. So, conceptually, the idea is, is to try and figure out like how, like how to create a pathway for as many for as many students who are in middle school programs to remain and transition into high school programs, which is increasing the enrollment, and most of those schools that are around the city that have middle school, high school programming. And so as you're seeing that we've seen an increase in enrollment this year. And so the expectation, the expectation is that that increase may continue over the course and so we were we were having conversations about projecting out what that will look like over the next five years for Masterman as we increase high school enrollment, and so trying to balance that out with middle school enrollment as well. And so that's what Dr. Payne was referring to and letting you know that this structure is being put in place to start the process of accommodating those expected increases over the course of years. Now, what I have said to certain factions of the other SAC at the same time is that you know, again, as eligibility becomes, you know, comes under review that you know, again, we can revisit that conversation at a later date. Only because we want to make sure it because there are a couple questions that are gonna be on answer which is going to be with our factors that right now we can't confirm which is a, you know, obviously number of eligibility of internal candidates and B whether or not the school district Philadelphia wants to keep the enrollment numbers on on this trajectory that we've already had a previous conversation around. And so those are factors, unfortunately, that we're unable to answer here. So the request that was made from the community from what I understand to have this eligibility or transitioning from middle school to high school was always looked at as a means of increasing the enrollment of the high school. And that's what Dr. Payne is referring to, that this was an inevitable consequence of having this arrangement being made, not just here, but also in several schools across the city.

**Ms. Lennon:** One thing to be clear, this is new, right? This new district board policy is new, and we're all in this together, and things are still fluctuating but are we at a point AS Gordon because I know even from an administrators point, our enrollment targets and numbers were not always definitive. Are we at that point yet? Because there's so many questions about that specific question being answered. What are the enrollment numbers?

**Mr. Gordon:** So as of right now, the enrollment numbers and projections as they stand is currently going on hold at where we are. Because again, as you said, because this is new, we are trying to identify how these new numbers are going to impact you know, the Master Roster, as we are still trying to solidify what that master roster is going to look like. What are the additional resources that are going to have to be added to the master program in order to be able to uphold and support that roster? You know, so again, We can't blindly continue to keep adding kids until we know that we have a functional roster that works and includes most of the asks that the community has suggested, which I believe again, AP Lennon and Mr. Roche has been really doing an amazing job with trying to make sure that most of those asks are included.

**SGA President:** I just want to kind of build on what people have been saying and be from a student's perspective about especially the clubs because I do know that there's like a lot of concerns. And that's part of, you know, a lot of I guess what made students schedule this year and I think it's what a lot of community members are anxious about for next year because clubs are a vital part of the community. But I think also kind of, to what Gilken was saying, like about how, Mastermen students are very, very resourceful and, you know, lead clubs, and you know, real teacher involvement. And I think a lot of Masterman clubs and activities have survived a lot of changes. And next year is definitely going to be very drastic, but students are really willing to participate and make it as best as we can with things that we can't change like, how many students are in the cafeteria at a time, things like that. What I'm thinking as a student, who runs several clubs and wants to make them work for next year is especially emphasizing the importance of having the high school lunches right next to each other. So hopefully, if clubs do have to meet during which may be, you know, the ninth and 10th graders of that club meet, and then in then the very next period, the, you know, 11th and 12th grade section of that club meets. And then every once in a while, there's like an after school group meeting or something like that. So that at least there's some continuity between, you know, the organization of the club, which isn't perfect, and I don't know if any of the other students want to chime in, but just thinking about like, how student run clubs are already very scrappy, and you know, resourceful, I think we can can try to make it work. But it is important that we get student input on how these things like logistically work on the ground. Students

who are involved in clubs every day, and things like that. So I don't know if Marissa maybe wanted to chime in on this one. If she had anything to add, we were kind of discussing.

**SGA Events Chair:** I think you about covered it all.. But yeah, just emphasizing that the high school lunches are next to each other which will allow for that easy transition between the two groups.

**Ms. Lennon:** We heard that feedback, you know, administration heard their feedback when we met last week about it. And so we are implementing the recommendation that it's 9th, 10th and 11 and 12 first lunch, second lunch. So that is the order of the lunches when it comes to high schools for next year. And just one more clarifying point for some parents or families on here, still a little confused by what Dr. Payne is saying and kind of piggyback off of the club. Inevitably, we are getting to the point where right now our middle school is larger than our high school. That's why we have three middle school lunches right. Next year. You know and in the years to come, it will be the other way around. It will be the high school bigger than the middle school. And then we're looking at a third lunch right now because we have the fire code situation within our building. So again, you know putting these practices in place now, knowing that we are I hate to say I know we've heard this said this word but right sizing these are organizational instructional systems that are starting now. And at you know, so the idea, like we all have to be on board on and again, this is all based off of the district's new policy, right of the you know, with the middle to high pathway these are things that are structurally going to just navigate, this is going to be the new Masterman. This is the organization for years to come. And so, you know, we will be at a point where there's gonna be three high school lunches. And so we just have to begin conceptualizing what it looks like? You know what are the logistics? What is it going to look like boots on the ground? Because that's the structure of Masterman from a macro sense.

**SAC Faculty Member:** So when the kids I know when you met with the SGA I was talking about it with some of the kids and I really I know like I probably got buried in the chats but I really wanted to see if you guys could think about this as a priority. Before school clubs are an option. But the problem now is Tuesdays and Thursdays is music and Monday, Wednesday, Friday all the, discrete kids, which is a whole lot of our seniors are NCCP so I had just dropped it in the chat. I just wanted to say it out loud for the greater good. Is there a way to try to incorporate discrete either later in the day or in a different way so that we could have actually have clubs before school on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday, not taking kids out of a music program and being able to include the discrete kids who are a lot of them are leaders of most of these clubs. So I don't want to make that food for thought. Like just make sure that point was out there.

**Dr. Payne:** I want to, I just want that thought and that idea is received but I want to make sure we understand that though discrete. Our students participate in discrete and that is a class on their roster. It is at and with the cooperation of the scheduling of community college. So whereas there are classes that we have influence over moving and when something is given and when something is roster we have is much more limited. To the point I mean, I'm gonna say it and again to be corrected. We are told when discrete is available, and when it will be scheduled. And traditionally, if I'm not mistaken, I think Mr. Gilligan had this conversation most recently. We are given the morning, which is not even the regularly scheduled time of the professor, he wants to teach this class he enjoys receiving our students and likes this partnership. And so the time he is giving us so that we are able to have the class is in the morning. And where are we? We are a room full of individuals who have no problem asking for what we want. Know that we are asking for the adjustment of an accommodation that we are already receiving.

**SAC Faculty Member:** Okay, I'm just wondering if maybe there could be a time to it or not, but I know if we're if we're going on set on that time, that's fine. I was just trying to brainstorm a way

**Dr. Payne:** Yeah, I just want to tweak your language. It is not that we could, it is a conversation and a request that may or may not be honored by the accommodation that we are already receiving. We are not actually scheduling that class. We are receiving when the class is scheduled. And then we are allowed to put students in it. And it's just a nuance of it but like our schedule we create, we take what we can what we need to do okay.



**Mr. Gilken:** On this jam just real quick on this just so we know, discrete is scheduled as such, because that class has to be 70 minutes, right? And we don't have so for example, we don't have a 70 minute block inside the day where we could put discrete to lay over one of our class periods. So discrete will either be happening in the morning from 740 to 850, or whatever time it is, or it'll be in the afternoon. And but either way, unfortunately, what it does is it covers up some potential time after school or before school for clubs to me, because they have they have seat time, you know, they have minutes that they have to meet in order to allocate the credit.

**SAC Faculty Member:** I can just put in chat about putting orchestra choir as a daytime class to free up before school. I'm just trying to brainstorm ways to free up before school that don't exclude music kids.

Ms. Lennon: So and then we'll kind of end this part there. We have looked into it. Actually, we literally talked about that today in our rostering meeting is how we can have orchestra actually scheduled for students. That is something that we're trying and that's the piece right that's happening next right so the next piece is we have this orchestra, but where can we put it right? And so that is the next step of these nuances. Right? And there are things that are fixed. Thank you, Mr. Gilken. Discrete is a fixed thing in our schedule. We have to work around that. Lunches are fixed in the schedule and I have to work around it like there's no there's no there's no conversation in the schedule, physically about where it goes. They're fixed, they're finite, that's it. But um, but then everything else building the schedule goes around it. So yes, so the screen is one of those things. Yes, that's on the table. We are looking into that if that's an option to move orchestra in there to do what you just said. Solomon to be able to have those students free to be able to do clubs before school, so yes, but thank you for that suggestion. We just can't do it with the discrete. All right. Um, so it sounds to me right we and as Gordon I will let you pause there. It sounds to me that I don't know if we have a vote or anything. I'm not sure how much we vote on but I kind of believe that we are set with the five lunches being ninth and 10th grade first. 11th and 12th grade second, eighth grade, third lunch 5/6 Fifth lunch. Last lunch will go to seventh grade. next school year. The timing of those periods they will be in the middle of the day will be determined at the next step which would be when it's going to be seven or eight periods. AS Gordon, anything else?

**Mr. Gordon:** No, thank you. That's about right. So, again, we're still in the process of making sure that we have a working framework. So that framework has to accommodate the movement and the moving and scheduling of students within that framework. And then the hopes that we'll continue to be able to garner additional feedback as the framework continues to develop. So as I said, we're and again, this is all factors because again, we know we had an advocacy group have a conversation directly with the school district. And so now we have because one of the factors why we can't confirm certain things is because we're still waiting for confirmation on the additional resources that have been committed to the community with regards to making sure that we're propping up and we're supporting this roster.

**Ms. Lennon:** Thank you. And if it's okay, Sam, could we go right into the principal just school wide updates and then you guys can return back to normal programming.

**Facilitator:** I'm getting a lot of texts asking what you mean by the use of the word approval. It's basically still open for feedback, right, Mr. Gordon from the community. We've heard about lunches today. We've heard about what might happen to clubs or what may not be possible. And, you know, you're still going to take feedback from the schedule committee and from the students and from the PFT right. That was kind of like the process that was laid out.

**Mr. Gordon:** We're always gonna take feedback, as Dr. Payne said earlier, we're always gonna encourage feedback and in conversations, I say as long as there's also equal time given to the idea that we are working within certain patterns of limitations and so limitations happening when you increase enrollment, you know, limitations happens when, you know, so like, you know, so when you're increasing the number of course offerings for example, number of teaching staff members, so and number of activities within a finite new time of the day. So there are just some realities that we just cannot change around those limitations. A roster is finite, you can only put so much, you know, so much ingredients into a stew. So as long as we have that understanding, you know, so we can certainly have a number of conversations as we continue to go through the

process of developing his roster because again, the biggest thing I want to make sure that we are left with is the fact that we can we can show that the majority of the asks were included.

**Ms. Lennon:** Thank you. My only thing with that since sorry, Sam is that we can't do anything else until this is so when you say feedback and time to discussion. We cannot move on until we have our fixed things. So what would time.

**Facilitator:** I think what we heard mostly, Miss Lennon, is how are clubs going to work, right? Like what is the workaround? How are we going to make it possible for clubs that need 9th through 12th grade like SGA, you can have a 9th and 10th SGA and 11, 12 SGA so it's just to be able to talk it through, right, there's also so much in the chat. And you know, that seems to be like the primary concern in terms of high school. There is also the feedback, unless we know what times these lunches are people cannot give meaningful feedback, so that's another piece of information that's missing, right?

**Dr. Payne:** It isn't, it isn't on to effects. When we're talking about how lunch is divided. And the order I hear and I'm ready to receive but what those discrete times may be, really doesn't, how it's chopped, and what order falls in does not really depend on at what time in the afternoon it starts and what time in the afternoon it ends because the order will be the same and and how we divide what's middle what's high, what grades will be the same. And that is what we are offering for consideration and pooling or inviting the feedback for, so we understand that there. may still be questions about like, what clock time does this begin? And what is it it got it but regardless, it still has an order and it still is going to be the be divided and those are the issues on the table that we can contribute information as we receive it has just confirmed what chronological time it starts what's the in data received. And I want to bring out as the principal that has said in the meetings listening to the priority of the district, I trust and believe I have received I am well versed in what the priorities of our school community are. But it has been communicated to me that the district's priority lives in classrooms and the district priorities are being delivered around academics and that is what we are told to schedule, that is what we were told to budget. That is what we're told to prioritize. And so while we want we understand that the full school experience and the richest school experience includes clubs and extracurricular activities, the priority what we are given what I am tasked with and what we must work to, to complete is prioritizing classes and academics and lunches and we can fill everything else out around that. But and I again, I will always defer to the people who I must defer to and AS Gordon is in the room. And there are individuals that that you all have met and communicated that will tell me that had hold the power to tell me differently. But that's what's been communicated to principals throughout the district. Prioritize when it happens in the classroom, scheduling budget is so and so that that is what we are presenting and doing our work around, not forgetting that clubs are important, but not being told and communicated. That was our priority.

**Parent:** I just wanted to say I totally understand the fire code pieces and it sounds like the division of kind of how you're chunking each grade to meet that fire code. Makes sense. But I would ask that as you ask us for a commitment or kind of an approval of that moving forward. I would also say I would just ask for there to also be a commitment to more concretely address clubs going forward and how it's going to happen because right now ninth and 10th will be rostered for a class while 11th and 12 are in lunch. And so that would be really hard to have crossed high school clubs with that being the case. Could we commit to maybe not in this meeting, but in some future meeting coming up with a positive and creative solution across high school clubs. Maybe it would be like having ninth and 10th advisory during the 11th and 12th lunch so that there was an easier flow than a rostered class just before we kind of move on and approve. That would be helpful to know that we're going to circle back to this.

**Ms. Lennon:** So yes, so that part I do hear you when it comes to that and I do agree and I think the work is in what can be done is like how you know, like what the SGA mentioned. Like we can focus on how clubs look and logistics. But you know, on the table right now, it's just more so the order of the structure, why giving you the background reason why, why we have the order, and why we have the structure of lunches. And that's first and as Dr. Payne mentioned, you know, clubs and those aren't priority as it comes to structuring and following codes and guidelines. Those are more secondary and tertiary concerns. But what's on the table right now is just this just straight out structure and the timing of it is subjective to you know, that's next week like you know, the timing of it, but just right now, five lunches, and this is the order of the lunches. But yes, Jordan

that can be committed and I think it should be because like you said, it's going to look what it's gonna look like when we have three lunches right. Jordan, we have to talk about that right later on. Because we are growing in size and that should be the focus of lunches is the structure and what it looks like. So I do think that work is important because we are growing. Thank you. All right. We do need to move on. It's 7:30 and I know SAC has their things. I think we want to make sure that everyone please, you know make sure to send the information right Sam if you have any questions, feedback concerns, to add, you know, to make sure we dropped that and you know, put it on the agenda.

**Mr. Gilken:** I have one last comment about clubs we're having all this conversation about this and you know Dr. Payne, AS Gordon, Miss Lennon are talking about sort of the progression of the structure and academics and then we kind of moved down and forward but I just want to say a couple of things, one, to Jordan's concern. As climate manager and quasi high school dean, I've already engaged in conversations with students who run our SGA and some of the larger high school clubs about how we are going to facilitate these clubs, if we are in two lunches. So these conversations are happening. And we're talking about solutions and talking about ideas. So I just want people to know that this isn't the first time these conversations are coming up. And then I want to put something out to a couple of people who are here. I want to put it out to some of the student leaders and some of the other students that are here. And then some of the faculty and some of the club leaders that are here in the time, in which at least I have helped facilitate sort of high school through my role as dean and climate manager has there ever been a time when we didn't make it work? Right, like we have been, we are in transition and we have been in transition since COVID. And yet no matter what we've and can we find a way to make it work. And so I guess what I'm asking for is maybe a little more trust and a little less skepticism that we will figure it out. It feels to me like every year with regard to certain aspects of our community. The sky is about to fall, but then we get to the school year and the things that have to happen happen and they seem to work and yes, there's change and there are people who have concerns but with regard to clubs, I can tell you this, we will get to September, and we will have a way to make it work. We'll have a way to make it work. I don't know what that's going to look like before the first day of school we'll be able to tell you what it's going to look like. But I guess that is what I'm asking for and that's and that for me in my role is just, I guess I'm articulating a level of frustration. Because we make things work. And then people say, well, this is changing so it's never going to work again.

**SAC Faculty Member:** Can I just suggest an idea? I know I'm interrupting and butting in line. But the ad hoc scheduling committee worked the first five months on making our suggestions for schedule and we finished our work. So now our work would be moving into looking at some of the solutions for the schedule. So why can't we carry over this conversation into an ad hoc scheduling committee and have them try to look at some possibilities for clubs, how to make things work in the morning, like based on what's coming with the new schedule. I don't think it needs to be you know that way the people who are interested in it come to that and it gives that committee has already been talking about time management, a way to continue on talking about time management and get input and data and try to creatively come up with solutions because I think that it's an a whole ongoing process and the only way to get this done is to keep talking and this gives it a place to do it. So just my two cents.

**Mr. Gordon:** If I can jump in. I think that that's part of the conversation we wanted to have. And so as I shared with you guys, before I went I did want to meet with the ad hoc committee once to have an opportunity to solidify our framework and then once we solidify the framework we know we're working with them, we can pivot. I think it's a good thing to pivot to that conversation. So I appreciate you jumping in and you know, offering the opportunity for us to be able to work with the committee to have those discussions. So if that works

**Organizer:** Do you want to say more about that? So like, I think what you're saying is at the next ad hoc scheduled meeting, I'm gonna repeat this because I might have misheard you. That AS Gordon you'll join it and people can join there for ongoing conversations about this.

**Mr. Gordon:** I think that right now we're prioritizing the framework of the roster, based on most of the asks, and so that unfortunately, that framework still has to be solidified or there's still some factors that we're trying to factor in, in this development at this time.

#### **4b. Update from Principal Dr Jeannine Payne:**

**Dr. Payne:** Extremely brief, actually more an update about communication stream next week just to keep it make everyone aware. For most of the week, I will be, I have a conference and will be off site so I know that I believe I've done a decent job of sending out a weekly communication or at the least before the weekend is up. There will be, if there are any announcements for the week sent out by other members of administration but there will not be a newsletter they will not be a summary they will not be a communication by me. Because I will not be able to construct it. I don't want there to be confused with it like there's an issue or problem. It will be that I am unable to do it. Other than that, I do not believe that between last Friday and today that there are any major updates. And I know that after we log off, after administration is gone, there's still committee reports that are happening, and I hope that there's another opportunity for everyone to meet Cass because they are an important member of our school community. And although I think I did introduce them in writing, I want to make sure that there is some face time and appreciation for the great work that they are doing with our students and staff.

**Ms. Lennon:** And so just to add to the updates, just because these were addressed, and it may come up in Teaching and Learning and different committees, few things, athletic committees and things like that. So, as Dr. Payne mentioned, we did put out the sports information for spring sports, which started Monday, you know, it's been a rainy week. And then we are in process of like the paperwork I believe is almost at the end of for a tennis coach because I know that's a SAC agenda item. So the paperwork is still in process. We pick the person again. It's not us, it is HR and downtown. So we're just waiting on that and they should be at the end nearing the end of that process. And also I did share with HSA athletic lead today but we have already started and thank you to ad Ottorolafor looking for fall. So we've already posted our fall coaching positions. So we are well, uh starting the process to make sure all of our teams and sports are done so systematically. We're making sure that we are making our coaches ready to go for this summer. Because we know fall sports start in the summer so that was posted today actually. And that gets posted internally within the building. If no one picks it up from our building, then we go externally within the district. So it's still external to the school but internal within the district. And then lastly, the process after that would be if no one picks it up in those two areas, then those positions are posted after June 1 to someone outside of the school district of Philadelphia. So to make sure that is known as it pertains to admin update from administration as it relates to seventh grade and just PSSA prep preparations all teachers have agreed to a PSA prep planning I know we were looking at and I talked to even Dr. Berty about just seeing if we can find funds and have teachers do before school after school. And you know, is it equitable and different and things like that. So we want to make sure everyone has an opportunity to have PSA prep. So those are happening within the school day, or fifth, sixth and seventh grade teachers are currently implementing their plans. I do know they're not widely communicated. So that will be part of the update moving on this Friday of what those plans look like for fifth, sixth and seventh. I did. I didn't say eighth because I believe their books still aren't in yet. But I know the priority with eighth grade typically is with Keystone because keystones are a graduation requirement for this for the state of Pennsylvania. So we're looking a lot towards making sure our students prepare for keystones and demonstrate success. Whether or not they come to Philadelphia or not. If they stay in Pennsylvania, they must pass the Keystone as part of pathway number one as a graduation requirement. If you don't know what I'm talking about, please check out the graduation requirements on the school district Philadelphia website. So I just want to make sure because I know that those topics I mentioned were one different subcommittees, agenda items, and I want to make sure those are addressed by administration before we log off. Anything else from us addressing anything else globally?

**Organizer:** I think there's only one very minor thing, which is as soon as you all know the details for graduation for both eighth grade and 12th grade community members have asked for that. That's like super minor. I could shoot an email about that too. They just want to plan to host family.

**Ms. Lennon:** So they 're all finalized for graduation which are on the calendar right Miss Neu they are tentatively on the calendar in June. So if you go to our website in June, you'll see the dates. I just don't know off the top of my head because there's so much going on. And, and yes everything is yes high school is like I said it is tentative. We are almost at the point where that's finalized. Middle school is finalized. Money has been paid. Community College is good. So middle schools are

done, but I know high school and just for transparency. The reason why high school says tentative is because we're technically out of the guidance of the school district Philadelphia's window because we're not really supposed to have graduation. The district says these are the days graduations can happen for the entire city. Our time is outside of it. That's why we have to say it's tentative. And you know, that's why we have to say it that way because it is not the district guidance district that says you must have it 12th, 13th or 14th or something like that. And we are operating outside of what the district. We also are very mindful. I know there is a Jewish holiday that falls in that week and things like that. So I knew that we were mindful of that and how it impacts a large part of our community. So we took that in consideration just different things we took in consideration of why we scheduled that day.

**5. Assistant Superintendent Gordon:** *“Review of School District of Philadelphia resource commitments/feedback from the Ad-Hoc Scheduling Committee.”*

**Wed. Mar. 13, 6:30 pm: SAC Ad Hoc Bell Schedule Review Committee Meeting.** AS Gordon will collect feedback from the committee on the new roster for the 24-25 school year. [Join Zoom meeting](#)

#### **6. High School Update-Candelaria Beatty**

So for SGA we just finished our Feast of Justice drive in partnership with the Masterman feminist club. We collected 1000s of items, including 1000s of period products. Some of those are going to Feast of Justice and then some of those are going to the spot in Germantown, which feminist club is organizing in collaboration with other similar organizations, other Philly public schools and high schools in general. So Feast of Justice has picked up a large amount of the donations but we'll be getting the rest of those this week. And for the spirit week, the white team brought in the most points during the drive. So they're going to receive 150 spirit week points, which was a really big motivation. But we're also just so grateful to all the community members who contributed to that. As was mentioned earlier, we had our monthly admin meeting last week, where we met with administration and discussed current events in SGA. And also the creation of next year's schedule, which we've already discussed at length today, but again, administration was, you know, affirming our goals. And we're going to try to keep students in the loop during this decision making process and then upcoming events. The biggest thing is spirit week. The kickoff is going to happen on Friday, March 15. And a lot of teams have already started prepping for Lip Sync competition. The handbook is going to go out tomorrow with all the rules and then signups will go out on Friday. We've got a contest for spirit week T-shirts because we have one for white team and one for the Blue team. So they're designed by students, and then those T-shirts are being ordered today and are going to be distributed soon. So yeah, that's it for spirit week. And then just another reminder that students specifically in the junior class wanted me to raise their junior class dues which are due soon and I think are still missing a lot. So that was just a reminder to put out to the parent community for any Junior parents who do want to talk about that. Turn that in. But I can answer any questions.

#### **7. Middle School Update- Zoe Soskin for Izzy Silverman**

So pretty much to recap February. Middle school girls and boys basketball finish up their season. And it was a very tough season. So go Dragons you made it through. And then Beauty and the Beast was a huge success for most of my friends and a lot of the Middle School. The sixth grade just had a field trip to the Academy of Natural Sciences and the eighth grade had an ice skating field trip which was tons of fun. And then this week is Spirit week. So I've been participating in that and we've had many fun themes. And then this Friday, the eighth grade science olympiad with Miss Smith will be going to regionals. So good luck to them. And then finally the eighth grade Clue the musical is continuing to move forward and we have started to run the show from the top and we have started to build our sets and paint our sets. Um, so that's pretty much it for February. So thank you and have a good evening.

#### **8. Home and School Update- Anne Albert HSA President**

The main thing that we are working towards right now is auction auction and more auction. So on behalf of the auction committee, I would really like to encourage everybody to engage. There are chances to join the committee and do some work in advance independently to help out on the night of to donate items and most of all, to buy your tickets to the auction there's

an early bird price that's like a discounted price of \$55 that ends on March 15. So you have like about another 10 days or so to get in at that lower price. And I'll just say it is actually a pretty fantastic deal for you're gonna get a lot of dinner and dessert and an unlimited open bar and entertainment and the chance to socialize with a ton of Masterman folks. And with that said we're also really wanting to make sure that this event is a community building and a connecting event as much as a fundraising event and so we want to make sure if there's anyone who wants to attend and finds the \$55 to be a barrier finds cost to be a barrier we absolutely can supplement for people. So if that's the case for you, or if you know someone that that's the case for please reach out to auction at Masterman hsa.org And that information is on the website and that email is there and everything like that. It is Friday, April 12 at Craft Hall, which is a fantastic venue. We're going to have the whole venue to ourselves thanks to the very very generous owner. The other thing that I want to put on people's radars is just that we are also beginning to work to plan the graduation receptions. So HSA has committees to run the eighth grade graduation that has traditionally been staffed by seventh grade parents as a kind of preview for the joy that they're going to have the next year. But we'll take help from anybody and also the 12th grade graduation so we have small committees that are up and running for that, but we can always use more help because it's a ton of work to make a really great party for amazing grads. So again, we're hoping that people will enjoy stepping up to connect with us and have a little fun planning those parties and I'll put my HSA email in the chat in a moment. Please feel free to reach out to me any time about those things about any other kind of volunteering. And I'll just give a bigger update at the next SAC meeting. I'll stop there for now. Thanks.

#### **9. FACE Update- MiMi Gravley FACE Liaison for our school.**

But it's just one update to remind you guys that should be in the newsletter that I am hosting a volunteer orientation Tomorrow at five o'clock via zoom. It'll just be a presentation and then if you guys need help with doing the clearances, we can also go through that and that's pretty much it and just a reminder if you guys ever need anything, you can always email or even shoot me texts. I am here for you guys and girls.

#### **10. Committee Updates & Reports:**

**a. Ad Hoc Bell Schedule Review - Co-Chairs: Ester Roche Curet, Elana Solomon, Carolyn Gray, and David Neale Meeting time:**

**Committee Co-Chair:** Next Wednesday, I believe March 13. David Neale set up a meeting for Mr. Gorden to come to the ad hoc scheduling group. And talk to us about the changes that were going on, where as soon as all that's finalized, we're gonna put it out to the bigger public and put it in the high school or the Home and School newsletter. And now that you know, I'm just thinking out loud like it looks like decisions are being made and that a roster committee wasn't formed, which was one of our big asks. The changes are happening to the roster without a committee so we're being told the changes so now we just have to navigate some of the changes that met our needs and some of the changes that didn't so how are we going to adjust to these changes, and that's why I was thinking out loud about let us look at clubs and other things. So I think the ad hoc schedule committee is just in a holding pattern. We already told people you know, we had the 25 item recommendation list and now we need to see what is met and what wasn't and and what wasn't tried to figure out ways around.

**Committee Report:** [Masterman Schedule Recommendations for 2024-25](#)

[Final- Schedule Recommendations for 2024-2025](#)

**b. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - Co-Chairs: Carolyn Gray and Lauren Bell Meeting time:**

**Committee Chair:** And over the last couple of weeks, I've had the opportunity to meet with Cass where we've talked about standards. And there are four, which are identity, diversity, justice, and action. And there are topics about which we hope to explore which include race, race, and ethnicity, religion, immigration, gender and sexual identity, bullying and bias, rights and activism. And we hope to commit to bring those to the front that we have seen up here at Masterman SAC not all of these topics will be discussed, but there are some that will and we are making a commitment to discuss, teach and learn about women's rights in history, past and present. During Women's History Month, legislation and policies that deepen injustice, whether they limit teaching about race and racism, allowing

children and families to struggle and poverty and attempt to erase LGBTQ plus people and curtail their freedom to access care. So these are the kinds of things that we will be doing. I've been doing quite a bit of research. Cass has come in to get a little bit of the history of Masterman and its programs, Lauren is here and got safely to her destination and so we will have the opportunity to get together and meet and have an agenda that we can move forward with.

**c. Teaching and Learning - Co-Chairs: Kim Neu and Sam Vitiello Meeting time: Second Mondays @ 8-9**

**Committee Co-Chair:** So we have extensive notes that you can look at in the agenda to read about more. But some of the topics we talked about were PSSA preparation. We talked about when teachers are absent for long periods of time, making sure their students are still receiving quality instruction. And we spoke a lot about the illustrative math curriculum, which has been causing lots of problems for especially the ninth grade math students. Assistant Superintendent Gordon was actually at our meeting and was very responsive. To everything that we spoke about and had some great ideas and seemed to really hear us and we were all very appreciative to talk with him.

**Committee Report:** [Teaching and Learning February 2024 Committee Report:](#)

**d. Health and Wellness - Co-Chairs: Carolotta Stafford and Eva Anderson Meeting time: 2nd Thursdays @ 7-8**

**Committee Co-Chair:** I was ill last month. I had COVID. So I was not at our meeting day that even as I went to get together to talk I was still ill. So she and I did not catch up. But in our previous meeting, we didn't have a turnout. So it just ended up being 3 of us. So we are struggling with getting our attendance up. So for those people who are concerned about the health, wellness issues of our young people, please come out to that meeting so that we can have some more people on hand to help as we move forth these efforts. So we'll be back to a report for next month for sure, I promise

**Committee Report:** [Health and Wellness February Report](#)

**e. Climate and Culture - Co-Chairs: Aubrey White, Michael Wang Meeting time: Third Mondays @ 7-8**

**Committee Co-Chair:** So basically, the kind of items we've been focused on for our committee is communication. I think that's pretty important in terms of fostering like environment for discussion can occur. So some things that that we discussed in last meeting kind of tied to communication around 7th grade lunch. So for those who are not aware, kind of due to the change in schedule for art and gym. So some parents expressed some concern about the change in lunch. So right now. Some 7th graders eat third period on B days and some 7th graders seven on B days with 5th graders. So again, kind of the communication for parents for that there was something more clear and detailed communication from the school on that change. The topic that was discussed was just absences for both math and English teacher. Like what learning goes on during that time. The other point discussed was absences. So I just wanted to discuss earlier this year, in the committee where some parents noted some issues within infinite campus, students marked, unexcused absence when away on school activities.. So maybe it was something like sports, field trips or music. So again, we are kind of wanting feedback in terms of what they can do to ensure that it doesn't occur?

**Committee Co-Chair:** I'm going to pause on it just to say Michael did mention several times about communication. And because we are responsible for Climate and Culture for the input form as well. One of the things that we're starting to see in the input form is like are you reading this is this passed on and I hope that like this evening, you can see how the cycle kind of work. So we noted communication as a concern came in the input form, we discussed it and Climate and Culture. That information is shared with Dr. Payne, Dr. Payne then shared tonight to say, hey, here's my plan for my Friday update. I'm going to proactively share with you that there won't be an update this week, and here's why. And so I'm just giving that as an example. So that a lot of times you are giving us anonymous input, and so we don't have a way to say back to you. Yes, we've talked about it. Yes. We've talked about it as committee. Yes. We've talked about it with the administration. Yes. You know, we don't have a way to say back to you. Yes. We're working on that. But I hope that as you sit with us and you're a part of this community, an ongoing way you can see that just manifest in the cycle and there's a little bit of that manifestation tonight.

**Committee Report:** [C&C Committee February Report](#)



- f. **Safety and Facilities - Co-Chairs: Joe Alberti, Marte Smith & Kristine Ho Meeting time: 2nd Tuesdays @ 6:30**  
**Committee Co-Chair:** We didn't have an update, because we didn't actually meet last month so nothing, I guess new on this. I know someone had mentioned the pedestrian bicyclist, sort of traffic in front of the school. I know that is something that I think was Oz Hill, but I might be wrong, who I know, parents have been in communication particularly around like getting Philadelphia police and other people's help in helping to ensure that it's safer. I mean, because quite honestly like from someone who is out there you know, at arrival and dismissal, like if anything, it just feels like it's getting worse. There are cars like just continuously beeping. There's traffic jam. There are cars speeding around other cars and so it is really unsafe. Situation is going on out there. So I'm hoping that the additional resources that I know have been talked about in the past meeting with facilities hopefully can come to fruition at some point since it is sadly like a progressively more dangerous situation that seems to be happening.

**Facilitator-** I just want to add one thing to it. Michael took the time to go through several meeting minutes to get all the updates we need to do with facilities and with safety because last SAC meeting Mr. Gordon mentioned that facilities is Chief Hill and safety is Chief Johnson who is new, we have just taken over. So that's one thing. So if you look at the report that is in for Safety and Facilities this month, like in the agenda, it's the minutes from the HSA meeting where like 11 people came to talk to our community. We're also going to look through the SAC minutes and get all the stuff that has been spoken about and start getting feedback on that and we did get several questions from community members regarding the PA system test like under what conditions it was done. We're compiling questions, so that we can do a comprehensive follow up. Instead of just one or two questions being asked from the facilities office. We want to do a comprehensive list and ask them answers to all the questions we're getting from the community. Thank you.

**Committee Report:** [SAC Facilities Committee February Report](#)

- g. **AD HOC Bylaws - Co-Chairs: Elana Solomon, Nichole Geiger, and Michael Wang Meeting time: 3rd Thursdays @ 7-8**

**Committee Co-Chair:** So in terms of what we focused on were making sure there's language within our bylaws to clarify the decision making process meaning who on SAC is able to vote in the bylaws. Not very clear, who has the right to vote? So currently, it's going to be like the parents families. Same goes for like the teacher staff, and students, which wouldn't be like me, the SGA. That was our topic that was the moment through our SAC election process, which we kind of touched on earlier.. So we were thinking of adding like the timing of the vote, so maybe the spring time to kind of allow for the New members to be up and running for next year. So we kind of want that much earlier than I'd begin the school year. But that was kind of always discussed.

**Committee Report:** [Ad-Hoc Bylaws Committee February Report](#)

- h. **AD HOC HS Admissions - Co-Chairs: Anne Dorn and Jen Lennon Meeting time: Third Sundays @ 7-8**

**Committee Co-Chair:** Ah, thanks. All right. So at our meeting this past month, the first thing we talked about, is what the current seventh grade parents are looking forward to with the admission system next year, what are their concerns? And a big concern was the new thing that's being rolled out next year is ranked choice. So when you apply to a school other when you apply to a school other than Masterman, you'll need to rank all your schools including Masterman. So I'm not explaining it well. Now. So the first concern we had about this is this is going to be difficult to communicate. We should be very careful to communicate how parents need to fill out their application to get the result they desire. The other thing is we were concerned about when the district combines the ranked choice promise they made last year with the promise that our qualified eighth graders can stay for high school. Will they be able to combine those two promises in a smoothly functioning way? And I did reach out to Mr. Gordon to see if we could get an update on how the implementation process is going. And he said there they are not ready to provide an update we should check back in at the end of the year. So that was the first part of the meeting. The second part we talked about the Masterman ranking. The school board and the superintendent have said they've had their eye on



Masterman maintaining its rank in the US News and World Report rankings. So we looked into what is it that supports that ranking if they see that's what they're interested in? What specifically would they be talking about? And one interesting thing that came out of that is that the school district reports a lot of information about AP pass rates for all of the schools to US News and World Report. And I believe the way these things work is if they report if the school district is giving this information to us news, they also have to give it to us. So I filed a right to know act request and the school and the you know attorney has said she will get back to me by April 5. So I asked for all of this information about all of the ranked schools in the district that are ranked by US News and there are 19 of them. So hopefully next year, our admissions committee, if we can get this information by April 5, or by next year, we'll have a lot more information about all the options that students may have to apply to. So that was kind of what we achieved, and I'm just talking about what happened in this meeting.

**Organizer:** Thank you. And I'm going to ask them that everybody here who does want to continue, like the high school admissions committee is continuing to meet because we do want to hold a space for people to share about those experiences. And one reason that committee exists, is because there were families several years ago who had a really rough time and said, Hey, we learned something. We want to share what we've learned with other people, and, and continue that tradition by just trying to continue to share knowledge and share learning so that this can be a smoother process for students and eighth graders as they transition to high school. so thanks for sharing, update.

**Committee Co-Chair:** share the extra point that these kids were hurt more badly then, then I would have expected myself, and more badly than I can explain. And I would really like the school to be aware of that.

**Committee Report:** [February Report, Ad Hoc High School](#)

## 11. Old Business:

1. **The addition of this language in the community handbook:** (Mr. Gordon informed us at the preSAC meeting on Jan 31 that he needed to meet with school leadership first regarding his follow-ups) [Masterman Community Handbook](#)

page 17 under **Athletics, Music & Arts, & Extracurricular Activities.** • *Students, teams or clubs who are part of an active investigation may be prohibited from participating in scheduled activities until investigation procedures are completed.* This was raised by a parent in the Dec SAC meeting. This new language in the student/community handbook removes a student's right to due process. Last year, the baseball team forfeited their season because of an allegation that when investigated cleared them.

Also, according to the student handbook page 1/2 : *“Disclaimer: This document is subject to change. Updates to the Student Handbook will be provided to the students and changes will be made to the online version of the document and will be included in any subsequent printing or publishing of the document.”*

**SAC Organizer** - The first one is the addition of the language in the community handbook. We are here to share with you that that language will be staying in the handbook. And so the administration JRMasterman and us as superintendent Gordon and the district really were careful with this. They sat with it for some time. They spoke with their counsel. And the finding is that this language is about a privilege and not about student rights. And so the idea is that athletics and extracurricular activities, these are privilege that students have, and it's at the discretion of a school leader. What their students can participate in those activities, which are offered as a privilege. This language will remain in the handbook and it is also true for any school in the entire district. That's what we have received. It's de facto true anywhere, whether it's in the handbook or not so Masterman is not being treated differently than other schools. It's explicitly in our handbook because it did come up in our community. So that's an update.

**SAC Facilitator** - I just wanted to add to that. He said that the language will be changed, it will be softened and there's going to be updated language included that it's going to be on a case by case basis. So yes, so that's what he

said in our last meeting in the Pre SAC that they were going to discuss it and there will be a change in language but the general idea is going to stay.

**SAC Organizer** - Thank you Sam for clarifying that though. The one thing that we did want to make clear is that that's true, one sentence case by case you mean student by student. So what will not what we should expect is that a team would not have all their privileges revoked, revoked because of actions of one team member for instance. So that was like that's the clarification that Sam is saying.


**2. Boys Tennis Coach for HS status update:**

**SAC Organizer** - The second old business which you know, has come up every meeting and design and anticipating it came up again, is the Boys Tennis Coach update. The boys tennis team has a match scheduled for Wednesday, a week from today. They haven't practiced. They don't even know if there is a team. There is no roster for them. So this is something that is a vacancy that was created because of decisions that our school made in June of last year. So I think that comes back also to like just this idea just so we all understand like where sometimes there's frustration and there's emotion. We are very grateful for the extensive effort that has been put forth in hiring this coach. It is by definition late. The children will not have time to be practicing while other teams are already out there practicing. This was known this was a known issue. It wasn't a surprise, it wasn't like something happened abruptly where we had a vacancy. It was something that was known. So we're glad that it is being resolved. And there are of course lingering frustrations and emotions around that that I hope are understandable to everyone here on this was a team that was like a state championship winning team was very successful and it's just been begging us for a coach actually had two students who put something in the input form, um, this week where they actually asked "Is anyone helping?" because they have received like no communication themselves as students, and they just don't know.

**Parent** - So I just had a question about this particular thing or would it be acceptable from an admin point of view if someone were to volunteer their time to stand in while the person was going through the hiring process, knowing how long that can take just to get things rolling? Because I think originally during the conversation in the HSA, there was somebody who was doing that.

**SAC Organizer** - We actually asked that specific question about the coach themselves. And my understanding is that there are conversations in place with the coach to see if they could volunteer before they're officially hired. Like in that way so I think that yes, thank you for suggesting that.

**3. School Communications: (Input from synthesis form)**

 SAC Input Synthesis, Volume 6 (3/5/24) **February: 02/01/24 - 03/05/24**

Communications Concerns: Responding to emails, folder access in portal comms, clarity of portal communications, website with current info

**Previous SAC Synthesis Forms:**

[Volume 5: January: 01/04/24 - 01/30/24](#)

[Volume 4: December: 11/30/23 - 01/03/24](#)

[Volume 3: November: 10/24/23 - 11/29/23](#)

[Volume 2: October: 09/27/23 - 10/24/23](#)

[Volume 1: September: 08/30/23 - 09/27/23](#)

**4. 7th/6th Grade PSSA Prep:**

**SAC Organizer** - Next, seventh, and sixth grade PSSA prep. This is old business that has been addressed. The PSSA prep books are in was shared both by notification thatr the HSA newsletter so families can also prepare at home, if you missed that you can probably search your email for it. You just can look for PSSA or released items and it should come through because I went through a portal notification to everyone in response to your concerns.

**5. Update on when School Profile will be linked to the School Website**

I don't know about the school profile.

**6. Update on roof accessibility for recess: Roof is open including garden side.**

## 12. New Business:

### 1. Long term sub plans (ELA/Math/AP) for teacher absences:

**SAC Organizer-** Long term sub plans we know is a major concern for teachers who have long term absences.

### 2. 7-1 eating lunch with 5th grade on A days and 7-2 on B days:

**SAC Organizer-** There's concern from the seventh graders that, it was actually was discussed at the Climate and Culture meeting as well, where just in case not everyone knows. sub one section of the seventh graders is eating lunch with fifth grade on A days the other section of seventh graders eating lunch with fifth graders on B days in order for the schedule to work because of the complexity of it. All these seventh graders are with their grade every other day. But it does mean they're eating different periods and 2 sections of kids are separated from their cohort every other day. And this is a seventh grade class that we're very concerned about. We only want to care for just making sure we're all aware of that need for ongoing care.

### 3. Graduation 8th grade and senior graduation details:

**SAC Organizer-** Graduation senior graduation details we're in the chat earlier tonight. I will try to pull those out to make sure that we get them. I'll be sure they also come through the HSA newsletter.

### 4. Title IX Concerns:

**SAC Organizer-** Title Nine concerns. We would like to say to the community, we as a SAC saw the article in the Inquirer. This is not an issue that we have taken up on it. It's not something we've discussed in our committees. We are learning about it. We're taking it seriously. And one place if you'd like to discuss that further that you can come is the Climate and Culture meeting. So, if you would like to discuss your experience or your child's experience in sports, particularly with Title Nine concerns, the upcoming Climate and Culture meeting is a place where that will be on the agenda. We do want to create a space where we say as a community, how do we want to care for the students and pay attention to this and make sure that we're supportive.

<https://www.inquirer.com/high-school-sports/jocelyn-goldstein-masterman-girls-basketball-1000-points-title-ix-20240229.html> (you may also access the story here:

[https://edition.inquirer.com/infinity/article\\_popover\\_share.aspx?guid=68cfa26f-fd7a-45b2-8dd7-a74482ebd0fe&share=true](https://edition.inquirer.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=68cfa26f-fd7a-45b2-8dd7-a74482ebd0fe&share=true))

### 5. Floor