


DRAFT MINUTES JRM SAC Agenda for Feb 5, 2025

 Approved Minutes Nov 6, 2024 SAC Meeting .pdf

Roll Sheet Link- Sign In Sheet: [Feb 5, 2025 SAC Sign In](#)

Facilitator - Roll call of SAC members:

Parent Members		Admin & Staff Members		Community Members		Students SGA reps	
Sam Vitiello (F)	P	Principal Laurie	A	TBD		Kaddy Ren (HS)	P
Lauren Bell (S)	P	Ms. Harrison present for				Aimee Oyeniyi (MS)	P
Aubrey White (O)	P	Principal Laurie	P			Noah Soskin (MS)	P
Michael Wang	P	Ms. Solomon	P				
Dhivya Kaushik	P	Ms. Gray	P				
Tracy Joslyn	A	Ms. Neu	P				
Stacy Leonard	P	Ms. Geiger	P				
David Neale	P	Ms. Smith	P				

Sharing of Agenda:

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

1. Welcome & Norms:  Norms of JRM SAC meetings

2. Approval of Minutes:  Draft Meeting Minutes of Jan 8, 2025 JRM SAC Meeting

Facilitator motioned; Organizer second motion. Minutes passed.


Principal Laurie was not present at the meeting due to illness and Ms. Harrison attended as admin rep for the SAC meeting.

3. SAC process/business/updates:


1. Input from the SAC input form is being shared with principal Laurie and followed up on with various members of school administration/staff. Here are links to the monthly synthesis documents:

[SAC Input Synthesis 24-25. Volume 5 \(2/5/25\)](#)

[SAC Input Synthesis 24-25. Volume 4 \(1/8/25\)](#)

 SAC Input Synthesis 24-25, Volume 3 (12/4/24)

 SAC Input Synthesis 24-25, Volume 2 (11/6/24)

 SAC Input Synthesis 24-25, Volume 1 (10/9/24)

2. Principal Laurie will meet with (DEI & H&W, Admissions and T&L committee chairs in January)

4. Update from Principal Gordon Laurie:

Announcements and Updates:

- Student Achievement Announcements:
 - Celebration of Lunar New Year
- School Selection Update:
 - Total number of Eligible students choosing Masterman as #1
 - 5th Grade:
 - 9th Grade:
 - Current Masterman 8th graders:
 - Total number of seats, offers and acceptances:
 - 5th Grade:
 - 9th Grade:
 - Mechanics of the lottery and waitlist process
 - Algebra 1 - Could we use the District stipend program?
 - School Selection - 8th graders selection was due today. Parents to continue to check the website for updates if student on waiting list.
- Heights Update: Introduce new person.
 - Kia Nwadiora introduced as new Heights representatives
- NHS info for 9th and 10th graders so they understand what the expectations are to qualify. (Has communication be shared with 9th and 10th graders and their families)
- SAC Data Request:
 - Will be sending out acceptance letters to our new families
 - No numbers to share with SAC tonight
- Course selection:
 - Student Input through T&L Survey?
 - Wish Mr. Tannen Congratulations
 - School Counselors Week Celebration and thank you for all you do
 - Feb 11th College application and college fit meeting for 11th graders.
 - All juniors must attend to plan for their next steps
 - Appreciate our families and the SAC for their participation which is key to our community to strive and I look forward to your continued collaboration.
 - First middle school townhall occurred on Feb 5th. The plan is to have monthly townhalls the first week of every month.
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 - Course Selection discrepancy on due date- due Monday 5pm. ?
 - Requested Admin to put out a correction regarding Course Selection due date.
 - Requested Admin to hold a course selection meeting for families
- Can a Title 1 meeting be held on zoom at a time that is convenient for families to attend?
 - A table was set up during the parent teacher conferences to gather information.
 - There is a google form on the website for families to provide input.
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School Selection status updates:

- Number of 9th and 5th-grade applications? 9th - 1497, 5th - 565

5. Facilities Update: Check if anyone from the facilities office is attending the SAC meeting and offer them a chance for updates.

Outstanding Business:

Paint on the Roof

- Still working with maintenance to find contractor will reach out for updates

Water Fountains

Air Purifiers

Restocking Bathrooms: soap dispensers, toilet paper etc. Liners for disposal of menstrual products in stalls.

- Filters are replaced as soon the lights turn yellow
- Just delivered a box of 12 for them
- HEPA filters are serviced as needed.; service as needed
- Would like restocking of bathrooms placed on a schedule
- Will drop off more-500 count boxes for Mr. Woods to overstock the feminine products
- Put on the time and day check- multiple checks and build into the facilities master plan
- Suggestions to table the roof paints until the temp is consistently over 50 degrees.
- Repainting the building? Multiple factors; will raise it up with a request to have it painted and what would the time frame be and get the response back from leadership and Principal Laurie.

Resolved:

~~Stall locks to be fixed~~

~~Staff bathroom 3rd floor pooling of water~~

6. High School Update- Kaddy Ren - SGA President

[SGA February SAC Update](#)

- We began our feast of justice drive;
- International Day is next monday; dress rehearsal held
 - 2- hour delay after super bowl we will reschedule for another day
- Admin meeting: requested 1 breakfast station for MS students in one hallway for accessibility. Principal Laurie looking into it as location is dependent on outside temperature. Noted that breakfast and lunch is a food access issue
 - Students who have orchestra in the am; congestion of 1200 students going up for breakfast; suggestion breakfast available when they first walk in
 - Discussed service of lunch as there has been refusal of service
 - Course selection assembly this past Friday and have until next Monday to make their selections.
 - AP course selection: expressed concern over class space
 - Many students interested in AP Psychology
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- College Application:
 - Midyear reports how will grades be calculated (2 separate quarters - or cumulative scores from 2 quarters)
 - Still have not been uploaded
 - Separate grade for the 1st and 2nd marking;
 - Each marking period will be shown in mid-year report for each course taken
 - Discrete will only have 1 grade because it a semester based class and not quarterly
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 - A sample mid year report that accompanies College apps would be something seniors and senior parents would love to see.

7. Middle School Update- Aimee Oyeniyi and Noah Soskin - Middle School SGA Co-Presidents

- Boys/Girls basketball season
- Music working on concert in March
- Musical is happening the last week of Feb
- Field trip Liacoaras Center with
- Valentine Day candy grams-collecting money next week
- Black History Month- door decorating contest
- Spelling Bell Jan 18th Sophia 8-1 each rep from middle school
 - Very competitive congrats to everyone who participate
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8. Home and School Update- Anne Albert HSA President

SAC Meeting 2-5-25 HSA President's Report

- Thank you Counselors!!!
 - Sending some treats today
- Thank you to all who attended our Lunar New Year Celebration
- Thank you to everyone who came out to our 1st in-person meeting
 - Congrats to our readers who read poems
 - They read at the townhall as well
 - Big push was to get more people involved- more people have signed up to volunteer for events
 - Link to the sign-up genius to sign up to volunteer
- SuperBowl Bracket fundraiser is almost filled up and will be open till the Superbowl
- Next week running wonderful teacher valentine that we did for the 1st time last year
 - You can sign up to dedicate to a teacher or a group of teachers
- School Directory-reviving the directory-deadline extended to Friday-you do have to opt in we will not share without person
- Next Friday, Coffee and Conversation with Principal Laurie 830-930 in the library
- Sch * Have 1 each month next one will be on Mar 14th

- March 7th Family PotLuck
- The auction planning is in full swing - the auction will be Sat April 5th and tickets are on sale right now. Donation and sponsorships are currently being solicited.
 - Craft Hall with free food and drinks with student entertainment
 - School Volunteer Work Day April 26th or May 31
 - Merch website

***Having a zoom for parents about course selection**

***New Face-Joy McIntosh-**

9. Committee Reports

a. **Climate and Culture (now includes Safety & Facilities) -**

Co-Chairs: Aubrey White and Michael Wang

Meeting time: Third Mondays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: TBD

C&C Committee Update: High level discussion of the Middle States (non-accreditation).

Committee Report [C&C December Meeting Report](#)

- Did not meet in Jan due to MLK day and Feb meeting will be rescheduled as it falls on President's Day.
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b. **Teaching and Learning (Will Meet with Principal Laurie this Month)**

Co-Chairs: Ms. Kim Neu, Dhivya Kaushik and Sam Vitiello

Meeting time: Second Mondays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: Feb 10

T&L Committee Update: Following the PreSAC T&L committee finalized the Senior and Junior survey and sent it to Principal Laurie who has distributed it to Seniors and Juniors for input.

Committee Report: [SAC T&L Meeting January 13](#)

T&L Follow ups:

- Request for supplementary data - AP score distribution for 23-24 - We are compiling data
- Request to include a couple of seniors to review survey and add/refine questions
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c. **Student Activity Committee**

Co-Chairs: Ms. Elana Solomon and David Neale

Meeting time: First Mondays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting:

SAC SAC Update: We are continuing to address concerns with regard to clubs and other activities as they arise. We are constructing a document for new club sponsors that will help them understand the process of leading a club at Masterman.

Committee Report: [2.3.25 SAC SAC Minutes](#)

- Still focused on Clubs-shortage of sponsors- job description of what a sponsor need to do
- Designed questions to ask teachers revolving around sponsorship
- Spoke to Principal Laurie about updating this in handbook
- Question about Math pathway- son was excited to take Discrete hopefully this will continue
- Language Pathway Question-having a 9th grader and seeing her take 1st year language again/despairingly (
- Similar concerns, want to encourage 4 years of language; if they choose to continue with Spanish 3 then it looks like they will need to choose Spanish AP; would like offer Spanish 4 also;
- College allowed my son to take an exam to skip having to take a language;benefits to passing the AP exam.
- Will adding classes for high school impact the offerings for middle school?
- Can summer language and math offerings be explored and shared with families?
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d. **Admissions Committee**

Co-Chairs: Chelsea Badeau, Neha Vapiwala, Stacy Koilor.

Meeting time: Second Sunday @ 7-8PM

Next meeting:

Committee Update: Committee reviewed the post-admissions cycle survey that was sent to students and parents last year. Committee discussed edits to the survey and the Committee plans to send the survey out in February after the current cycle closes. Admission decisions are expected to be released by the district later this month.

- Did not meet because there was not much to discuss
- Possibly conduct a survey to find out how the process went.
- Even with ranked choice, there have been students who have not been offered any spots.
- Can the committee engage with current 7th grade families now that the school selection has been completed to provide information on masterman high school, offerings etc.
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e. **Health and Wellness**

Co-Chairs: Dr. Lauren Bell and Stacy Leonard

Meeting time: Second Thursdays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting:

- How to increase the sense of belonging for all of our students esp middle school and find ways to ensure community and sense of belonging for middle school.
- Finding ways for students to celebrate together and give students experiences to be leaders
- Safe spaces for students - maybe a discussion group for 5th and 6th grade to support them and increase the sense of belonging to Masterman

f. **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

Co-Chairs: Ms. Carolyn Gray and Dr. Tracy Joslyn

Meeting time: Third Thursdays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: TBD

Committee Updates for DEI & H&W:: (Will Meet with Principal Laurie this Month)

- Cultural diversity and gender identity, inclusive language, microaggressions, unconscious bias, religious diversity.
- There are opportunities for students to pray during the day
- Inclusive language usage
- Want to put together a framework that Masterman is a inclusive place for all students
- Following district policy towards ICE
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The two committees are working together to address mental/emotional health of students and staff and equity/ inclusion topics. They had a joint committee meeting with all elected SAC parent members to discuss. The broad themes of Belonging and inclusive language (proper use of and training) were identified as 2 main broad objectives for the rest of the year. Committee Chairs will meet with the Principal to discuss these topics in detail in January. We have had 2 meetings.

g. **AD HOC Bylaws - Co-Chairs: Ms. Elana Solomon, Ms. Nichole Geiger, and Michael Wang**
Meeting time: None (Will Meet with Principal Laurie this Month)

Meet with the principal to review updates in Feb and then share with the whole school community for input.

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10. **FACE Update- Joy McIntosh**

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No admin on the call so tabling the following items so administration can be engaged with these items.

Request that the mid-year report for seniors in the common app be submitted ASAP by the counselors. It is essential for students who have been deferred.

Request for a School wide data performance meeting for the community as was done last year.

11. **Outstanding Business:**

- Admissions Criteria:
 - How will the Algebra 1 Criteria be verified for next year's cohort of 9th grade students?
 - Criteria for 10th grade admission to be adjusted in district communication (include Algebra 2 and Language 1 (French or Spanish))
 - Status on this for next year's 10th grade applications
- Chromebook - parental controls and repairs/replacement (has any kind of communication gone out to MS families regarding parental control etc with the advice Ms. Lerer Shared)
- Grading:

- Grade dumping: Continued for 2nd quarter.
- 9th grade - academic plan outline - language pathway and Math doubling up when and how?
- Midterms -

New Business:

1. Long term absence of Spanish teacher: Communication and Substitute plan to mitigate learning loss.
a.
2. Clarity from administration on what the math and world language pathways are going to be next year; concern regarding juniors choosing between world language and science during course selection
a.
3. SEPTA safety - esp at Broad and Spring Garden Station/Platform safety issues at dismissal. The station is always a mess at dismissal and the platforms are way too crowded with kids from multiple schools being dismissed at the same time. It really needs to be looked at from a long term perspective. What can we as a school do to advocate for more resources to ensure safety. Could Principal Laurie possibly reach out to School Safety and SEPTA transit
a.
4. Breakfast service: Last year breakfast was on the first floor, moved to the lunchroom, and then moved back to the first floor after multiple stakeholders expressed concern. Breakfast has recently been moved back to the lunchroom. We'd like to understand how this is impacting students.
a.
5. Mid-year reporting for colleges; these are not in Common App yet; families would like to know the anticipated timeline for these to be submitted by the counseling team.
a.

Floor: