### JRM SAC Agenda for March 5, 2025

■ APPROVED Meeting Minutes of Jan 8, 2025 JRM SAC Meeting.pdf

Roll Sheet Link- Sign In Sheet: March Sign In

## Facilitator - Roll call of SAC members:

Parent Members Sam Vitiello (F) Lauren Bell (S) Aubrey White (O) Michael Wang Dhivya Kaushik Tracy Joslyn Stacy Leonard David Neale	P P P P P P P	Admin & Staff Members Principal Laurie Ms. Solomon Ms. Gray Ms. Neu Ms. Geiger Ms. Smith	P P P P P	Community Members TBD		Students SGA reps Kaddy Ren (HS) Aimee Oyeniyi (MS) Noah Soskin (MS)	P P	ŀ
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## 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: Minutes for Approval Feb 5th 2025 JRM 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 6 (3/5/25)

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)

## 4. Update from Principal Gordon Laurie:

## **Announcements and Updates:**

- Discussed the school musical and how successful and enjoyable the event was.
   Congratulated the Music department and the student performances.
- School budget: discussed the school budget process as the next school year budget will be released on 3/6. The school admin will meet with the district and discuss what resources and

other needs are for next school year and whether the proposed budget meets the school's needs.

Student Achievement Announcements:

Community Updates:

## **Community Meetings:**

**School Data Meeting:** This is usually scheduled in Dec, Jan: Enrollment, Attendance, Climate data and student achievement aggregate data (ELA, Math, course marks by grade) and PSSA/Keystone data trends are shared with the SAC, HSA and the school community. This data is being compiled to share with the community.

## School Budget:

- School performance Data help members of the community to engage in a more meaningful way about priorities in the school budget?
- Do we know what Title 1 funds are allocated for Masterman?
- When is the budget due? March 6th release March 10th
- For SAC/HSA input- Friday, March 7 1 to 2 Zoom
- Date: To present the School Budget to the school community?
  - 10th March?

#### Title 1:

- We need to set the date for the Spring Title 1 Meeting.
- Could comms for survey please be included in Masterman Minute?
   Community does not check the school webpage except for teacher conference sign ups.

## **School Selection Update:**

- Principal's Update: Waitlist Offers Feb 24, offers went out to students for 5th and 9th grades as well as 6th and 7th grades.
- The Principal received an update from Assistant Superintendent Nguyen that the school is receiving additional cohorts for 5th and 9th grades. A concern raised is that this may impact school staffing, so additional resources will be needed from the district.
- The Principal stated that the District has not supplied acceptance numbers.
  - Total number of seats, offers and acceptances:

5th Grade: 1326th Grade: 165

7th Grade: 198

• 9th Grade: 165

• How many of our kids are returning as freshmen?

- Total number of Eligible students choosing Masterman as #1
  - 5th Grade:
  - 9th Grade:
  - Current Masterman 8th graders:
- Mechanics of the lottery and waitlist process
- Has School sent welcome letters?
  - Events for new student/ family info sessions and orientation
  - May 9 possibly
- Can you share the plan to address Language/Algebra placement for incoming 8th graders?
  - Algebra 1 Booster Could we use the District stipend program?
  - Language 1 options?
  - Has the school been able to assess Algebra 1 readiness and Lang 1 needs for incoming Freshmen, yet? When can we expect this needs assessment to be complete?

Impact if Masterman is over-enrolled based on waitlist offers extended for 5th and 9th grades beyond the 132 and 165 cap and the addition of a 6th and 7th grade class:

What additional resources the District is committing to the school.

The school community will be anxious for clarifications and assurances from the School District for the following things as well.

- Students will be taught as the projected number of advisories even with adhering to the cap
  for 5th and 9th because an additional 6th and 7th cannot be supported right now in the
  building.
- Assurances that the building can support at least 80-90 more students in the building next year and we will have enough custodial staff to maintain the facilities.
- Both HS and MS instructional integrity will be maintained. As you are aware, there is a
  perception that the MS students' are not adequately supported in the school and the risk of
  losing 'Specials' and Language courses in 8th grade is a real concern in the minds of many
  MS parents.
- Health, Math, Digital Literacy and French Language instruction needs were identified even prior to this over-enrollment error, as were the need for more counselors.

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

☐ Ou	tstanding Business:
	☐ Paint on the Roof : Tabled until temperatures hold above 50
☐ Re	solved:
	☐ Water Fountains
	☐ Air Purifiers
	☐ Restocking Bathrooms: soap dispensers, toilet paper etc. Liners for disposal of menstrual products in stalls.
☐ Ne	w:
	Painting the building interior: Mr. Manna will check with the District.
- acilities update fr	om SDP:
Keith Guess	
Anthony Di Canrio	

• 1 additional cleaner in the evening; all bathrooms are fully stocked; sanitary pads dispensers have been installed

# 6. High School Update- Kaddy Ren - SGA President

## **March SGA Update**

- Just completed Feast of Justice fundraiser
- Donation proceeds Red Cross Chapter
- Fashion Show Jan 10th Youtube channels to watch
- March Event Student Faculty game-signups went up this week
- April 30th High School Jazz
- March 10th All City

7. Middle School Update- Aimee Oyeniyi and Noah Soskin - Middle School SGA Co-Presidents <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eewhmvOf9rlf6EveMWJjWC-x05dxoDnkr6gd5oelFGc/edit?tab">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1eewhmvOf9rlf6EveMWJjWC-x05dxoDnkr6gd5oelFGc/edit?tab</a> <a href="mailto:total">±t.0</a>

- We had a great Musical
- Jazz Band and rehearsal
- Spring sports are starting; track
- 5th Grade went to Franklin institute
- We sold Candy Grams and raised money
- Black History Month Door decorating contests; winners coming soon
- March 17th All City

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

#### SAC Meeting 3-5-25 HSA President's Report

- Auction
- Directory Link was sent-everyone should have access
  - Still possible to join
  - Will do the same thing next year sooner hopefully
- Beautification Day! April 26th 9-3pm
  - o Signup and showup with clothes you don't mind getting dirty
  - o Pizza!!! Tools
  - At least do it 2x's year
- HSA Executive Board
  - This is an election year
  - o 1st step is creating a nominating committee
  - Then solicit nominations
  - List of candidates will be shared with community
  - o If not contested, a secret election will be held
- Limited Edition TShirt
  - Student will hold a design contest
- Coffee and Conversation
  - Fantastic time Next March 14th 8:30-10:00am
- Recent
  - Thank you to all who helped with Super Bowl
- Auction Planning!!!
  - April 5th
  - Biggest event to raise money for Masterman
  - Buy you ticket and come
  - Early Bird Ticket price extended
  - o If cost is an obstacle, please reach out
  - Please help solicit sponsors/benefactors

#### 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**:

\*Did not meet because it fell on a holiday

b. Teaching and Learning (Will Meet with Principal Laurie this Month on March 19th)

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

Meeting time: Second Mondays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: March 12th - this month is wed due to the All-City HS concert.

**T&L Committee Update**: Principal Laurie attended the T&L committee meeting and heard parent concerns and answered their questions. Meeting centered around course selection. Mr. Gilken attended and was helpful with answering questions. Topics included: Specials offered, Health, Language class teacher absence, Language course progression, Math pathway

## Committee Report: SAC T&L Meeting 2/10

- Course Selection/ Roster a collection priorities from various SAC and SAC Committee meetings:
  - Priorities:
    - Promises were made to the Masterman Community after 13 representatives of SAC and HSA met with Dr. Dawson last year regarding school selection and course selection. AS Richard Gordon was charged with delivering those promises. At the end of the last school year the community was asked to give grace to the process due to leadership transition. Current 9th grade families placed their trust in this process and course commitments that were made to make their school selection choice and would love to see these commitments carried out incrementally as promised in a timely way. Current 8th grade families too have made a decision to stay at Masterman based on these commitments. The primary commitments were scaffolded language pathways to APin Spanish and French, Accelerated Math pathways, Restoring Junior Seminar to facilitate the college application process and restoring biweekly/weekly instruction in all Specials to every grade in MS.

#### Concerns:

- Students having to take unneeded credits in PE/HE in senior year, when they have already completed their credit because some of the cohort did not get the opportunity to do so. (eg. All current seniors take PE, Current Sophomores doubling up in Math can't take HE but the rest are, the same is planned for next year's Sophomores) Will the current and rising Sophomores all rostered for Health in their Senior year due to roster constraints? Recommend avoiding this as a long term strategy. This could impact course choices in senior year for years to come. Going forward can all 9th graders get their PE credit and 10th graders their HE credit in those years.
- Restoring Health education to MS for all grades.
- Preserving the variety and number of periods of each special in 5th, 6th and 7th grades as promised by District, AS and School leadership last year and continuing to find ways to restore more Specials periods to 8th graders along with preserving Language 1 course in French/Spanish for 8th graders.
- Careful allocation of PE/ Art/ Music/Digital Literacy resources to ensure Middle school
  quality and breadth of curriculum and specials is maintained consistently while exploring
  ways to give HS more course options in the Arts.
- Students in HS prefer making course choices knowing which teachers would be teaching those courses. This is a critical factor in their course selection.
- Common HS Lunch to support 9-12 clubs.
- Can schedule go back to accommodating Study Hall/ Options/ Enrichment for all of HS for the last period: Impact on student learning and sports.

### T&L Follow ups:

- Request for supplementary data AP score distribution for 23-24 We are compiling data
- Will meet with the principal to share student survey results, and Course selection feedback.

Concern with all the changes that are happening, there is no clear path.

Commitment was classes would be reinstated

### c. Student Activity Committee

Co-Chairs: Ms. Elana Solomon and David Neale

Meeting time: First Mondays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: March 3

**SAC SAC Update**: We continued work on gathering topics to submit to the administration so that new club sponsors will have uniform guidelines. The committee chairs will meet next week to finish the list and submit it.

We discussed a parent concern - some middle school advisors are not collecting dues and permission slips, directing students to submit them to the class sponsor instead. This leads to student confusion. We would like for the administration to clarify the expectations for advisors.

Committee Report: 3.3.25 SAC SAC Minutes

- Clubs: got some input from teachers/parents to
- Advisors some collecting dues, some not

Requested that the role of advisors be communicated to parents.

#### 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.

 The committee is hard at work drafting a survey to send to families regarding school selection.

#### e. Health and Wellness

Co-Chairs: Dr. Lauren Bell and Stacy Leonard Meeting time: Second Thursdays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting:

## 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 on March 13th this Month) The two committees are working together to address mental/emotional health of students and staff and equity/ inclusion topics. They have met at 2 joint committee meetings 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.

g. AD HOC Bylaws - Co-Chairs: Ms. Elana Solomon, Ms. Nichole Geiger, and Michael Wang Meeting time: None (Will present reviewed bylaws to Principal Laurie at preSAC on 2/26)

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

Will provide the bylaw revisions to the principal at an upcoming pre-SAC meeting.

### 10. FACE Update- Joy McIntosh

#### 11. Resolved Business:

- Long term absence of Spanish teacher: Communication and Substitute plan to mitigate learning loss. Communication was sent to parents in student backpack.
  - ESS is not the a good resource for language teachers would contacting Penn, Drexel and Temple Language ED departments be a good source, even to actively identify candidates for upcoming open positions?

Explore the possibility of sending emails to parents using Google classrooms.

- Chromebook parental controls and repairs/replacement. Communication been sent by admin
- NHS info for 9th and 10th graders so they understand what the expectations are to qualify.Communication been sent by admin

Attendance issues in the portal for students who have absences due to school activities and might be important for NHS nominations.

It was suggested that advisors should be responsible for correcting attendance related issues.

It is not easy for teachers to code the absence reason- so that might be why teachers are not coding it in the system.

• Breakfast Service: Has resumed near school entrance.

### 12. 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)

Assessing students' level for all incoming students.

- Grading: Grade dumping: Continued for 2nd quarter.
- Scaffolded Language pathway from 9th to AP in 12th
- 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 parent meeting attendee noted that at school dismissal, the SEPTA Spring Garden platform is overcrowded and no adult is visible! It's right at 440. They should deploy staff to oversee. Overburdening of SEPTA that all the high school dismiss at the same time
- \*A parent meeting attendee lobbied to have more buses / used to have enrichment at the end of the day helped with students being dismissed early if they already accumulated enough academic hours/also worked for students who left for sports/if we are talking about having more students next year, having a staggered dismissal would help.
- \*Request a crossing guard from the city for schools that serve K-5. The school needs to request for the crossing guard from the city. We have students 5-8th. <a href="https://www.phila.gov/services/streets-sidewalks-alleys/request-a-crossing-guard-for-an-intersection-near-your-school/">https://www.phila.gov/services/streets-sidewalks-alleys/request-a-crossing-guard-for-an-intersection-near-your-school/</a>
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#### 13. New Business:

**Health classes for 6th grade:** which occur every third week in place of gym, are consistently being used as free periods (i.e. kids are playing on their computers) instead of children receiving any kind of health-related instruction.

A parent noted that there is a mandate that Health curriculum be taught for students when it is rostered and it should be implemented going forward.

Virtual college info night for Juniors and their families: Felt like the information shared was not directed to Masterman students at all and was very generic. (culinary arts schools etc. discussed as options and elite schools that Masterman students have historically applied and been accepted into were not included) Perhaps two different sessions could have been presented ... one for basic knowledge and another for students who have completed college visits and who have already taken their SATs/ACTs. As a parent this was my first time hearing about college from Masterman and I felt like I learned nothing.

**Guys and Dolls:** This being a classic, from a different time, is anything being done to put the message into historical context for students participating?

**Dark Room:** Several questions (safety, supervision) were submitted regarding the planned use of the dark room next year for a HS elective which were submitted to the principal. **LINK**  It is a dedicated dark room and has been used as such in the past. All district protocol will be followed. The response has been included from the school.

**Course Selection:** Unclear what the math and language pathways are for the 9th graders. I am hearing 11th grade students requesting AP Spanish are getting turned away because of capacity issues. Is that happening in math as well? Also in French?

Meeting attendee noted that Counselors need to meet with students one and one to determine the course plan based on students college plans and their goals to ensure course selections are appropriate to meet their goals.

**Testing Schedule for HS:** Seeking clarification about policy on number of tests per day or per week in the high school (4 tests in 3 days?) What can students do when it isn't uniformly followed? Request for admin share policy with community and request for sharing a schedule across departments to balance out test schedules.

A test is defined as a written examination that is approximately a full period in length. Quizzes are shorter in duration (less than half a period) and cover less material than tests. A quiz can be given on any day while testing should adhere to the testing schedule dates for each department. The test schedule for grades 7 to 12 is:

- Science, Art, Drama & Film: Wednesday & Friday
- English: Monday & Thursday
- World Languages, AP Music, Engineering & CompSci: Tuesday & Friday Social Studies: Monday & Wednesday
- Math: Tuesday & Thursday

All classes in grades 5 and 6 will establish a testing schedule established by the teaching team.

#### Floor:

What actually is the plan for Spanish. Seems like one teacher is teaching two sections at once now for 8th grade?

Attendance: when students go to music rehearsal/sports; they are marked absent

- \*there is not a choice to modify absent or late
- \*Need a dropdown menu to say the student was at Music/sports/volunteer

\*Disconnection to what is being presented and what is written