


JRM SAC Agenda for May 7, 2025

 [APPROVED Meeting Minutes of Jan 8, 2025 JRM SAC Meeting.pdf](#)

 [Approved Minutes for Feb 5th 2025 JRM SAC Meeting.pdf](#)

 [APPROVED MINUTES March 5th 2025 JRM SAC Meeting - Google Docs.pdf](#)

Roll Sheet Link- Sign In Sheet:

[SAC May 2025 Roll](#)

Facilitator - Roll call of SAC members:

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

Check if anyone from the facilities office is attending the SAC meeting and offer them a chance for updates. Thank you to the District Facilities department for their continued engagement in our community and their partnership.

- Regarding rooftop
 - Painting for the roof-we were waiting for warm weather
 - Manna-no update-have a into my maintenance dept-how long can we shut down- we have had warm weather but wet weather
 - Maybe wait until summer
- Regarding painting walls
 - Facilitator will send Principal Laurie an email-question about the walls
 - Mr. Manna-that was being worked on-stopped during Middle States-will follow up with the plan and fixing of the walls and painting
- New item-sink in the Art Room apparently there is a place where it could be placed again but was closed off. Asked to be placed in the agenda
- Mr. Manna-BIF Building Improvement Form- I have to find out why the sink was removed-if the sink tests for lead and they can't get rid of it-that could be the reason-just give me time to looked into it
- Tom Shearer is back as the FAM.

- Question-testing for up on the balcony? Manna-that will be completed after hours/notice will go out when sampling/possible since it was after school just regular testing/some old lines/find out for sure and let you know
- Regarding 8th grade and 12 grade graduations:
 - Dates: June 11th - 12th grade; June 12th - 8th grade
 - Mr. Manna offered assistance upon request.
 - Reception is planned on the Masterman patio- will need is trash cans for outside-bottles of water and pretzels-about a dozen tables for food and giveaways for students-and school gear
 - Reach out to Laurie or Tom Shearer
- ☐ Outstanding Business:
 - ☐ Paint on the Roof : Tabled until temperatures hold above 50
 - ☐ Painting the building interior: Mr. Manna will check with the District.
- ☐ New Business:
 - ☐ Sink in art room
- ☐ Resolved:
 - ☐ Water Fountains
 - ☐ Air Purifiers
 - ☐ Restocking Bathrooms: soap dispensers, toilet paper etc. Liners for disposal of menstrual products in stalls.

3. SAC process/business/updates:

- We extend our deepest condolences to our dearest teacher and SAC member Ms. Elana Solomon and her family on the passing of her son, Tyler. Go fund me link: [Honor Tyler Solomon: Help the National Love Team](https://gofund.me/1ec9bdea) or <https://gofund.me/1ec9bdea>
- Thank you to parents for participating in Masterman beautification day. Over 50 parents volunteered their time.
- Administrative Assistants Day, Principal Appreciation Day, Teacher Appreciation week.
- Thank you to Ms. Peggy DeNaples for service to the school this year.
- Intro to Ms. Graham, our new AP.
- Thank you to graduating parents on the HSA executive boards and SAC - Ya-Chi Tsao, Chelsea Badeau, Sara Schindler Williams, Dani Laws, Jen MacNeil, Kimberly Guise, Maggi Li, and current SAC organizer Aubrey White.
- Thank you to graduating senior classmen: Special thanks to Kaddy Ren, Marisa Maisano, Owen Erdman, Joselyn Goldstein:
- Lindback awards: Mr. Tannen and a Masterman Alum Hannah Kleeman, Kensington High School for Creative and Performing Arts: Teaching ninth grade English, shout out to our David Neale.
- ☰ They're in a class by themselves - Meet three of Philly's best teachers, among the 202...

- SAC Elections: SAC Applications Deadline was Wednesday, April 30 and was shared through the portal many times in the last 3 weeks. Ballot shared with the community today at the May SAC meeting (Wed, May 7). 2025 J R Masterman SAC Ballot
There are 4 members completing their 2 year terms and there are 4 candidates who have volunteered to participate in the SAC election as candidates.
 - Aubrey introduce the SAC candidates and link to the ballot
 - Please read the parent bio
 - Joy I agree with the work you have done and continue in the work
- **Approval of Minutes:** [Draft Meeting Minutes -April 2nd JRM SAC Meeting](#)
 - Sam Motion to Pass
 - Neal 2nd the motion
 - Raise hand to pass the minutes
 - Minutes passed
- Bylaws [JRM SAC Bylaws_Final \(2025\)](#)
 - Through the Masterman SAC Ad-Hoc Bylaws Committee, significant time, effort, and collaboration was required for the work of updating the Masterman SAC bylaws. The work started during the 2023–2024 school year. This process included numerous public meetings where community members and other key stakeholders shared valuable feedback, all of which was thoughtfully considered and helped shape the final version of the bylaws. The collaborative spirit with key stakeholders was essential and greatly appreciated. A draft of the updated bylaws was shared with the elected SAC members, who were given a two-week commentary period (from April 4th to April 21st). The feedback received during this time was positive and thoughtful, and adjustments made to better reflect the community's input. The Masterman SAC Ad-Hoc Bylaws Committee extends our sincere thanks to everyone who contributed to this important effort.
 - SAC Bylaw Committee discussed the draft bylaws.
 - Public meetings with stakeholders to get feedback on the by-laws and the bylaws were updated.
 - Updated bylaws was sent to the SAC members on Apr 4th and based on the feedback and inputs, the bylaws were updated.
 - Bylaws passed unanimously
 - Mike Motion to Pass
Ms. Elana Second the motion
All present 7 parent members and 4 staff members voted and motion was passed.
- offer condolences to Ms. Elana and link to go fund me
- Thank you 50 parents showed up for Masterman day
- Professional Admin Day, Teacher Appreciation Day, Principal AppreciationDay
- Mrs Peggy thanks the community-Introduced Ms. Graham to the community
- New AP Ms. Graham introduced herself.
- Thank you to the parents who have worked tirelessly
- Thank you to the students and their commitment to the SAC.

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 8 \(5/7/25\)](#)

[SAC Input Synthesis 24-25, Volume 7 \(4/2/25\)](#)

[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 \(10/9/24\)](#)

5. High School Update- Nabilah Chowdhury - SGA President

SGA May SAC Update

- Mrs.
- Nabilah Chowdhury -President, Owen Kutser - Vice President, Ishaani Sheth Treasurer and 10th grade rep, and Victoria Chernyak Events Chair
- Spirit week was last week and thank HSA for funding it.
- SGA is planning their end of the year picnic on the last day of school for 9-11th grade
 - Madam Heinman will send out the permission slips and call for chaperones.

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

- Sports
 - Track team has been made and first meet was May 1st and Masterman dominated
 - SPRS - Broad Street Run
- Middle School Concert - Thursday, May 15th at 6.00pm
- Grade wide trips -
 - 8th grade- Dave and Busters trip
 - 8th grade- Parody Project Assembly on May 18th
 - Phillies trip on May 14th for all middle school- principal Laurie is going to throw the first pitch.
 - Neshaminy Trip for 7th and 8th grade on May 12th
- Keystones Algebra next week- May 15th and 16th
- Dances
 - 7th Grade Dance - May 9th
 - 8th grade dance - June 5th

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pwx1E1YDTRdFiI0xDxXYqkYorHy8X18fGWDXwdUFNI0/edit?usp=sharing>

8. Update from Principal Gordon Laurie:

- Another great week of learning at masterman
- Completed PSSA testing
 - Digital platform was stable; students reported good use of tools; no major disruptions

- Terrific success with today National Spanish Exam
- Visiting Senior Baseball Game-have been invited to throw the 1st pitch at the Phillies Game on Wednesday
- Number of district meeting the the adoption of the the Biology pilot program and scope and sequence
- Teacher Appreciation Week-Best Week of the Year!
 - Coffee bar today/sway tomorrow/special time with teachers on Friday
- Students are flexible and

- Site selection interviews for candidates happening.
- Good group of qualified candidates
- Demonstration lessons are the next step.
- Completed the PSSA testing
- Digital formal worked well. Students and teachers had good feedback
- Things went well.
- The Spanish national exam had very good results.
- Senior baseball game happened.
- Principal Laurie has been invited to throw the first pitch.
- District meetings regarding the biology curriculum. Masterman piloted it and the district is going to roll it out to the entire district
- Teacher appreciation week - HSA has supported and delivered and celebrated the teachers.

A. Student Achievement Announcements:

- a. French/Spanish Medals -
- b. NHS invites went for 7th graders
- c.

B. Community Meetings:

- a. **School Data Meeting:** Principal Laurie will post a video presentation of the school plan and data for the community before the budget call. **When will this be posted and shared with the community**
- b. **School Budget:** April 10th at 6:30PM - Budget presentation to Community
 - i. Title 1 funds are allocated for Masterman: **\$416,032** (+\$80,104 from SY 24-25)
 - ii. Update from Principal's meeting with District regarding Budget and Enrollment:

***Health Curriculum? Are we going to have 3 PE teachers or 4? We will have an extra class. Will we have enough resources**

***Currently we have staff for 3 PE teachers/if those numbers are real/the response has to be staffing to meeting the needs and support the program/the demand to be at masterman the promise of the school to deliver results at masterman/you can't scale up and not tip over/the product may not be the same as they were**

1. Funds
2. Enrollment Update
 - a. Potential to be over for 5th and 9th grade

b. If the waitlist moves, are you only notified if you are offered a spot.

iii. Principal met SAC/HSA input- Friday, March 7 - 1 to 2 Zoom

iv. Final Submission to District was in April

v. Links to Past School Budget Data:

1. [School Budgets - School District of Philadelphia](#)

2. [Public Purchase Summary Report \(SY24-25\)](#)

3. [Public Budget Allotment Report \(SY24-25\)](#)

4. [Public Allotment Report \(SY24-25\)](#)

c. **Title 1: Fri. May 2, 10 am:** Spring Title 1 Meeting

i. Joy McIntosh is Masterman's FACE liaison and hosted the meeting

ii. Reviewed Parent Compact

iii. She will submit the notes and we can send it as SAC comms and include it in next month's agenda.

C. Teacher Hiring (Site Selection)

a. Positions- 2 english positions and 1 one science position.

b. Number of candidates

c. Interview process- Screening interviews and then demonstration lesson. Site selection committee will sit in the lessons to evaluate the effectiveness of the teacher. Students will have a voice as well based on the demo lesson.

d. Status update

D. School Enrollment Update:

a. Waitlist Offers Feb 24, offers went out to students for 5th and 9th grades as well as 6th and 7th grades. (Total offers for 5th and 9th exceeded open spots)

District has made offers assuming attrition

b. Mechanics of the lottery and waitlist process: Still waiting for final numbers to be shared.

c. Welcome letters for new students: Events for new student/ family info sessions and orientation has gone out to 5th grade families.

d. Plan to address Language/Algebra placement for incoming 9th graders

i. Algebra 1 Booster - Could we use the District stipend program?

ii. Language 1 options?

iii. 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?

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9. Resolved Business:

- Information was sent regarding qualifying for NHS to HS and MS students: Applications were provided to current 7th grade students who qualify academically (all A's and 1 B). Qualifying students need to fill out the application and a committee will review their essays regarding character and leadership.
- SEPTA safety - Update from Principal Laurie regarding meeting with school safety and PPD. PSSA Prep: Update from Principal Laurei regarding online PSSAs. How did online PSSAs go?

- Course Selection/ Roster Priorities Achieved:
 - Junior Seminar restored
 - Math pathway and placement test update
 - Language pathway restored with full language from 9th grade to AP in 12th
 - Common HS Lunch to support 9-12 clubs
 - Students in HS prefer making course choices knowing which teachers would be teaching those courses. This is a critical factor in their course selection

10. 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))
- Course Selection/ Roster Priorities Outstanding:
 - Some students having to take unneeded credits in PE/HE in senior year when they already completed their credit because some of the cohort did not. (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) Recommend avoiding this as a long term strategy. This could impact course choices in senior year for years to come.
 - Will students benefit more from taking Health more in 10th vs 12th grades?
 - 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.
 - Can schedule go back to accommodating Study Hall/ Options/ Enrichment for all of HS for the last period: Impact on student learning and sports.

11. New Business:

- The new format of the SAC meeting we tried out last month worked really well in terms of moving up facilities and the SGA updates to the top of the meeting and then moving the business part of the meeting to right after the Principal's update. The meeting was under 2hrs!! And lots of info was covered as usual.
 - We have this request in the SAC input which we discussed in T&L: *I would like to propose that each meeting minutes from the SAC be linked into the parent fb pages for each grade and overall pages. There is a wealth of information in these notes and I'm not sure people are reading them or know to do so. The SAC board should designate someone to post the meeting notes in full on the private Facebook pages.*

- All approved SAC minutes are on the school SAC webpage.
- A summary of Agenda items will be shared in the portal notification prior to the SAC meeting after the agenda has been finalized with Principal Laurie in pre-SAC.
- PSSA online format: feedback from 5th grade parents that ELA was a little harder because of the format
- AP testing distractions during dismissal

12. Floor:

13. Home and School Update- Anne Albert HSA President [HSA May Report](#)

14. 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: May 19

C&C Committee Update: Committee discussion centered on school communication with family, particularly translation of portal notifications and parent access to grade-level Google Classroom “classes.”

Committee Report: [SAC C&C Meeting Report \(April 21, 2025\)](#)

- How parents get on the grade level Google Classroom as a parent and how to make that happen.
- Translation for portal notifications.

b. **Teaching and Learning**

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

Meeting time: Second Mondays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: May 12

T&L Committee Update: PSSA online format - Math vs ELA. Site Selection, Middle States - were the topics of conversation. There were also questions regarding school enrollment for next year and how it will affect teaching resources and classroom allocation.

- Provided an update on the T&L Committee meeting discussion
 - PSSA online
 - Site Selection
 - Enrollment Numbers and teaching resources
 - Middle States Initiative
 - Community Building and pairing of high school and middle school students

A follow up call to present results of the freshman language survey and a conversation with Freshman Parents and Principal Laurie and Language teachers occurred on Apr 3 Thursday at 6:30pm Can we share the results and presentation with all 9th grade families?

A call with math teachers and principal will be scheduled for Freshman Parents on Wed Apr 23rd at 6:30pm. Will be rescheduled.

Committee Report:


c. Student Activity Committee

Co-Chairs: Ms. Elana Solomon and David Neale

Meeting time: First Mondays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: May 5

SAC SAC Update:

Committee Report:  **3.3.25 SAC SAC Minutes**

Club sponsor guidelines:  **Club sponsor guidelines**

- Did not meet this month
- Working on club guidelines but nothing to update right now.

d. Admissions Committee

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

☐ Meeting time: Second Sunday @ 7-8PM

Next meeting:

Survey on how to navigate the selection process - hoping to get that out soon.

Principal Laurie wants to be involved in the process to get the information he would like as well.

Committee Update:

e. Health and Wellness

Co-Chairs: Dr. Lauren Bell and Stacy Leonard

Meeting time: Second Thursdays @ 7-8PM

Next meeting: May 8

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: Met with Principal Laurie on April 24th. The two committees are working together had a very productive meeting with Principal Laurie and Ms. Gray and Stacy will give an update.

g. AD HOC Bylaws - Co-Chairs: Ms. Elana Solomon, Ms. Nichole Geiger, and Michael Wang

Meeting time: None

From the floor

We have classes of 34 and 35 this year in 8th grade. Could these numbers mean that many more classes will be over capacity? Or is it more a matter of adding additional classes if needed?

- Because we are at 33 there is just no room/my commitment to this group/if we are 6 students we would collapse those classes and have fewer students and more classrooms/PFT/move towards grievance/i am not going to overload classroom/ i will collapse them and spread them out to new classes

Are we going to hire a new French teacher?

*yes that is an open position

Graduation reception outside

HS is a full day of school-do not dismiss students onto the patio

Parent Orientation for New Parents

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Ticket Distribution

- Not sure of the capacity of the new
- Families who need more or less

8th grade: They can email me and Donna McIntyre

12th grade: Email Mr. Roach