



MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAM

1250 Constitution Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002 • (202) 698-3838 • mauryelementary.com/lsat

Meeting Minutes

January 7, 2020, 7:36 am

School Leadership Present: Helena Payne Chavenet, Taeneress Griffin

LSAT Members Present: Stefany Thangavelu, Norah Rabiah, Jean Kohanek, Elizabeth Nelson, D'Ann Lettieri, Becca Schendel Norris, Katie Spellacy, Shannon von Felden, D'Angela Williams (via phone)

LSAT Members Absent: Becca Sanghvi, VanNessa Duckett

Other Attendees: Patrick Koontz, David Pinchotti, Lora Nunn

1. **Approved minutes from previous meeting.**
2. **Community comments.** There were no community comments.
3. **Contractor Punch List.** Patrick Koontz, Maury Business Manager, reported on the status of the contractor punch list. MBB holds a liaison contract for any closed agreements with Maury Elementary which includes the MCN contract and all subcontractors used for Maury renovation of the building. As of 2020, there has been a transition to migrate and enter any remaining issues from the Maury Punchlist 2019 or new repair requests into DGS work order system (used for all DCPS facilities). This includes any items outstanding from MCN, including top level items like the Multipurpose Room separator wall—update from today is that it will be two weeks to repair due to need to order parts. Patrick to enter any outstanding punch list items into DGS work order system. Patrick will cross check punch list with work order requests and report back. Urgency varies depending on issue—new issues like bulletin boards falling from wall vs. known issues with holes in the floor vs. water damage vs. A/C system.

Members expressed outrage around the failure of contractor to deliver completion of work and that there is no accountability or “warranty” of the work done under MCN contract. Patrick indicated that the request process to request fixes has changed and

LSAT members discussed concerns there is no penalty for failure to deliver. POC for DCPS is Amanda Ou & DGS is responsible to manage. Patrick will follow up with priority ranking and coordinate with inputs from parents, teachers and LSAT members.

4. December Meeting Updates.

- Enrollment Projections. New projection for 2020–2021 school year is 490 students (currently 460) which should allow for an additional teacher in budget, probably in Kindergarten or Grade 1 where growth is expected. Unfortunately, this is not a guarantee until the budget is released, hopefully by late February/early March.
- Maury Book Club. Upcoming book club meeting to be held on January 16 at 5 pm (before PTA). Some concern was expressed that teacher turnout may be low due to APTT meetings happening the same week; hard to avoid as it was scheduled right before PTA meeting to prevent multiple evening requests for time from teachers and parents. We hope to have nice turn out from families interested in participating in topic on Mindset.

5. 2020–2021 School Year Budget Priorities. Principal Payne Chauvenet reported on the budget priorities for the coming year:

- Keep students : teacher ratio low
- Ensure budget remains sufficient for all specials teachers, emphasizing importance of Think Tank program as valuable from a STEM perspective and as a way to support all classroom teachers
- Additional support staff to be considered: social worker, counselor, admin, etc.
- Working to ensure funds for staffing come from DCPS directly as rules regarding PTA funding across the District is in flux.
- Clarified that DCPS used a reserve fund to pay for the Grade 4 teacher position added late for this school year, but should be retained going forward; anticipates additional need to increase number of teachers in K and Grade 1.

6. New Business. Members wondered what supports can LSAT provide to ensure school and teacher morale?

- Working copiers. DCPS maintenance contract is expiring and schools are waiting to receive new equipment. Currently, only one of Maury's two copiers functions well on a regular basis. This makes teacher's work difficult and stressful—especially as we head into PARCC season—and is not an effective use of time for teachers.

- Reminder to Classroom Parents to check in with your teachers—maybe they could use one day a week to help with classroom prep for the week (e.g. 30 min. of volunteer time)
- Ongoing efforts from Hospitality Committee & SEL Committee will continue and they will brainstorm motivational ways to help teachers both physically and emotionally in day-to-day tasks.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 am. The next LSAT meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11 at 7:30 am.