



MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAM

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

Meeting Minutes—DRAFT

September 8, 2020, 4:00 pm via remote teleconference

School Leadership Present: Helena Payne Chauvenet

LSAT Members Present: Vanessa Duckett, Jean Kohanek, Ross Kyle, D’Ann Lettieri, Elizabeth Nelson, Richard Parker, Norah Rabiah, Becca Sanghvi, Stefany Thangavelu

LSAT Members Absent: Katie Spellacy, Angela Stover

Other Attendees: George Blackmon, Melissa Hoppmeyer, Tanya Myers, Lora Nunn

- 1. Previous Meeting Minutes.** Minutes of the August 18, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved by a roll call vote.
- 2. Community Comments.** None.
- 3. Enrollment Updates.** Enrollment is at 490 but there are still fluctuations. Still seats available potentially in PK3 and PK4. Grade 2 ratio did not increase teacher staffing numbers.
- 4. PTA Update.** Budget expenses at the end of SY19/20 were higher than expected. Need to raise ~ \$40,000 to meet projected expenses this year. Many events on hold (bake sale, yard sale (could go virtual), etc.). Approximately 66% of funds are spent for additional staff support (for full details on budget, please see PTA website), the rest on supplies.
Addressing gaps in school experience—unfortunately classroom materials and books can’t be distributed per DCPS guidelines. Teachers may have reading wishlists that could be crowdsourced; room parents could organize at class level for donation/pickup at the Maury Little Library; Jean will follow up with Ebony Burton to discuss the next room parent call.
- 5. Distance Learning Updates.** Principal PC provided overview of increase in live instruction and navigating new platforms. Some licenses are still being updated; progress has been good but the staff still needs grace and flexibility from families as the kinks are worked out.

- Maury staff and teachers are closely tracking who shows up. There has been very good attendance for the first week (~90%) but some have encountered technology issues to connect. Participation varies throughout the day and fatigue by grade level.
- It was suggested that there could be grade-level or age-grouping level (PK3/4, K–Grade 2, Grades 3–5) feedback sessions to check in on how distance learning is going. Principal PC said that staff would be open to that, but would like for students to have a few weeks of content behind them so they can get used to the schedule, etc.
- Individualized Distance Learning Plans (IDLPs) are in progress; if a student has an IEP, they will be contacted to discuss specific distance learning needs.

6. DC FACES Report. Maury Elementary is included in the list of ~20 DCPS schools recommended to have a name change. Jean spoke with DCPS LSAT Community Officer who indicated this process will be a centralized, top-down approach that does not place the onus for handling the process on individual schools, though details are not yet set. Since many of the affected schools are in Ward 6, the Ward 6 Public School Parent Organization (W6PSPO) plans to host a discussion on this with representatives from DCPS in the coming months.

7. Equity Workgroup. PTA and LSAT have both discussed equity issues, but feel like a separate working group drawn from the whole Maury community would be a better fit for further discussion. Since both the structure and the scope will need to be determined, there is interest in finding a facilitator to help with those initial meetings. Some options for facilitators may exist through Harvard RIDES, Teaching for Change, Kindred, or Courageous Conversations (used by DCPS). Jean will follow up with Raquel Ortiz, the DCPS Community Action coordinator for our cluster, to see what resources may be available.

D’Ann and Jean have been in touch with Ms. Leventhal, the social worker filling in for Ms. Delaney, to determine other ways that the Maury community can help our families in need.

8. LSAT Meeting Schedule and Membership Updates. In keeping with tradition, Maury LSAT meetings will generally be held the second Tuesday of the month; we will continue with a 4:00 pm teleconference until further notice. An updated meeting schedule is available at: mauryelementary.com/lsat. [NOTE: Teacher LSAT Representatives will be elected in September; new reps will begin at the October meeting.]

9. New Business. None.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm.

The next LSAT meeting will be held Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 4:00 pm via teleconference.