



MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAM

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

Meeting Minutes – Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 4 pm via teleconference

School Leadership Present: Principal Leah Hassler; AP Andrew Lardell

LSAT Members Present: Danielle Brasure, Emily Cramer, VanNessa Duckett, Kaylee Mina, Patrick Koontz, Shavanna Miller, Courtney Myers, Tiffany Myers, Richard Parker, and Amy Toner

LSAT Members Absent: Steve Beam, Stacia Cedillo, Elizabeth Nelson, and Emily Paterson

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 pm (EST) by the Chair.

1. Previous Meeting Minutes. There were no changes or corrections to the minutes of the April 9, 2024 LSAT meeting. Accordingly, they were approved and adopted.

2. Community Comments. There were no community comments.

3. LSAT Focus Topics

- Comprehensive School Plan (CSP). Principal Hassler gave a short report:

Academics: Students are finishing up end-of-year testing. Data will be provided at the June 2024 LSAT meeting.

Shared Leadership; Family and Community Engagement; and Culture of Achievement: See slide deck reproduced below (pages 4-5).

Q: Do we have any ideas how to increase attendance and address chronic absenteeism, particularly with respect to African American students?

A: Principal Hassler shared that the data for African American students is largely reflective of new families who enrolled mid-year and thus the number of days absent/total number of school days ratio triggers the chronic absenteeism classification at a relatively small number of missed days. In addition, days missed include both excused and unexcused absences. The school team continues to work personally with families and to identify and eliminate barriers to school attendance. Principal Hassler also noted that the school's chronic absenteeism total includes pre-K classes and those classes have a large impact on the overall data. She observed that pre-K is not compulsory, and DCPS can take little action with respect to families with students who are chronically absent in those grades.

An LSAT member noted that pre-K classes are largely in-boundary families, which may impact looking at physical barriers to attendance for those students.

Q: What about incentives? There are news reports of those working at other schools nationally.

A: Principal Hassler indicated that these have been considered.

Q: What can the LSAT do to help the school meet its CSP goals, including addressing attendance?

A: Principal Hassler asked members to continue to emphasize all the positive things going on at the school that support student attendance, including Spirit Week, End-of-the-Year celebrations, field trips, Global Rhythm and Taste of Maury, Field Days, and graduations.

- Budget – SY2024-25.

Principal Hassler shared that there is nothing new to report. She does not anticipate receiving additional school funds and certainly not in amounts that would enable the school to hire a new teacher. She stated that budget decisions have been made for next school year and does not anticipate any substantive changes.

The LSAT Chair also noted the difficulty schools face in trying to hire teachers and staff during the summer and the fall even when additional funding from DCPS is provided due to limited applicant pools of sought-after candidates.

- Enrollment, Lottery Results & Waitlist Movement

Principal Hassler shared that Maury is currently at about 60% re-enrolled, with a DCPS goal (for all schools) of 90% by the end of May. Maury is currently 11th out of 15 schools in its DCPS cluster in terms of re-enrollment percentages. She noted that accurate re-enrollment numbers help with class placements and waitlist decisions.

Q: What are barriers to re-enrollment? Do families know that they should inform the school if they do not plan on re-enrolling? Families might not know they need to fill out a withdrawal form.

A: Principal Hassler responded that this would be a good point to share with families.

Q: What about incentives? For example, Elliot-Hine raffled off a gift card to one feeder family who enrolled between a certain period of time. A teacher member noted that in the past, the grade with the highest level of re-enrollment by a set date got a chance to Silly String the principal at a school event.

A: Principal Hassler indicated that she would consider incentives.

4. Testing/Assessments. Principal Hassler shared that end-of-the-year testing has gone well overall. She noted that having one grade test per a day has helped lessen technological (computer) and connectivity issues. There was a DCPS-wide system outage that impacted the 3rd Graders 3rd Unit math assessments, so testing will continue for them into Wednesday (5/15). The 4th Grade will finish the school's testing calendar with three days of testing (Thursday (5/16), Friday (5/17), and Monday (5/20)).

Q: Are the new DC CAPE assessments similar enough to the old PARCC assessments that the testing results/data from previous years will be useful comparators to this year's testing results and to allow meaningful trend analyses?

A: Principal Hassler stated that although she is not currently familiar with the exact content of this year's assessments, the structure of the DC CAPE and PARCC are similar and results should provide for useful comparisons.

5. General Issues. Ms. Mina shared that several families offered to look at the school's broken sound system to see if it could be repaired. It was determined that a professional is needed to repair the system. Patrick Koontz shared that he is in discussions with a vendor to check the system and provide the necessary repairs. He also shared that window air conditioning units have been placed in the classrooms in the Old Building and that those are a helpful bandaid while necessary parts are on order for DGS to repair the HVAC system on the roof.

6. LSAT Elections – SY2024-2025. The Chair shared that nominations have been received for the four elected parent representatives for next year. Elections for the parent members for the SY2024-2025 LSAT will be conducted by the LSAT Chair and Principal Hassler.

7. Community Comments. There were no community comments.

8. New Business. There was no new business.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 pm.

The next and last SY2024-25 LSAT meeting will be held Tuesday, June 11, 2024, starting at 4 pm.

EOY Meetings LSAT

May Meeting

Shared Leadership

- By EOY, 65% of teachers will respond favorably to the Professional Learning indicator on the Insight Survey.
-Staff took Insight Survey yesterday. Waiting on responses.
- By EOY, 90% of staff will participate in a school committee or lead a schoolwide initiative.
-Goal met

Engagement

- Maintain at least 85% attendance for parent-teacher conferences and APTT meetings as measured in the Flamboyan portal. (All parents will receive a personalized touchpoint about their child's comprehensive individual progress outside of the report card or progress report if they do not attend conferences or APTT meetings.)
-Average: 66% of families attending APTT + PTC. Changing structures next year to be responsive to feedback (survey went out in April).
- By EOY, 68% of African American families will respond favorably to the parent communication indicator on the Insight Survey (up from 58%).
-Insight Survey: 63% of AA families responded favorably

Culture of Achievement

- By EOY, the number of student behavior referrals (SBT) will be reduced by 10 incidences per quarter from the previous school year.
-Goal met (81 total incidents this year compared to 156 last year this time)
- By EOY, Maury's Loved Challenged Prepared Index will increase from 52% responding favorably to 60%.
-Waiting on data
- By EOY, each child will have attended two field trips.
-Goal met
- By EOY, the average seat student attendance will be 95% or higher.
-Current: 95.21% (LY: 95.02%)
- By EOY, chronic absenteeism rates for African American students will be reduced from 22.8% (SY 22-23) to 15%.
-Current: 25.93% (LY: 27.19%)
- By EOY, chronic absenteeism rates for students with disabilities will be reduced from 26.7% (SY 22-23) to 18%.
-Current: 23.73% (LY: 34.92%)