

School Site Council - Wednesday February 25th, 2026 5:30-7:00pm

Location: Zoom

- Housekeeping
 - Enrollment Working Group update:
 - 216 children toured (still verifying 193 of those). Details about grade, etc. will come in soon.
 - Need to get clarity on MS class size. 4th & 5th is filled to 29, not sure about middle.
 - Jeff stated the original rosters from when we went down to 2 MS classes were 29 & 34 but settled in the high 20s for both classes
 - Jeff states they do NOT follow the maximums for middle schools because they consider us a K-8 school. So when justifying the MS class size, they use an average class size across the upper grades instead of looking at MS independently
 - Discussed trying to make a proposal to student assignment about what MS class sizes we would prefer (with teacher input). Jeff says the teachers have talked through all the possible permutations and they feel prepared to handle whatever the district decides. **Mary agreed to make the proposal and get teacher approval before sharing with Student Assignment.** 3 classes of 24 would be ideal. Depends how the waitlist looks. We want to AVOID having 2 classes with low-30s students.
 - Also need to consider the balance of new kids vs McAuliffe kids in MS classes. Jeff is hopeful that our message will bring kids who are here for the right reasons.
 - **Mary suggested offering shadow days to kids on the waitlist**
 - **Mary suggested buddy parents to help new families integrate**
 - Mary doesn't know of any of the 5th grade students that have requested to change their minds and stay at McA instead of transferring.
 - Overall, seems like a lot of progress made in lower grades (K/TK) and less for middle school
 - **Agreed to push the next SSC meeting to 3/18 for better spacing**
 - Mary did talk to the staff about what it takes to participate in CAASPP testing. Made it clear that on the adaptive test section, you only need to answer 10 questions to get participation credit. And in the performance test section, you only need to answer 1. And just that amount should improve our rating a lot.
 - Discussed sharing of SSC folders & documents
 - Agenda & minutes to be public.
 - Drafts of official documents to be private by default. Final versions will be shared through the correct channels. People who click the links in the agenda can request access if needed.

- Drafts of other (SSC-created) documents to be private by default. Final versions will be embedded in the SSC agenda or minutes.
 - Zoe will make sure the drive is set up correctly & write this down somewhere for future chairs.
- PAC/DELAC updates - Reviewed Jan & Feb meeting notes
 - EL student progress has been going down at the district level and 2 schools are being monitored for especially large drops (McAuliffe is not one of them)
 - For Project-Based-Learning training McAuliffe uses something called the “Flex Pathway” instead of the traditional PBL 101 training. That is more about getting traditional schools introduced to project based learning, and we are already advanced in comparison. Mary thinks our next step will be Problem Based Learning & Service Learning, where you integrate bigger needs & problems into your project. But some teachers do take PBL 101.
 - CUSD is putting together a POL Expert database of parents who are experts and would like to partner with the district to create experiential learning opportunities. Will having our parents participate in this program increase our access to those opportunities? Zoe will send that link to Kris & Joni to put in our next newsletter
- Skipped review of the afterschool survey results due to low number of responses (15)
- Began work on McAuliffe School Site Survey
 - Aim to finalize the questions at March SSC meeting, after the LCAP survey has closed
 - Release the survey in late March, before April break. Keep it open only for ~9 days (2 weekends) because it gets people to respond.
 - Google forms data is difficult to work with, but the platform is approved by the district for privacy concerns. Mary will check if we are allowed to use Typeform.
 - To encourage responses, consider offering the kids swag in exchange for proof their parents did the form.
 - Have the parents fill the survey out separately for each student for better data disaggregation. Parents of multiple kids are used to this.
 - Open-ended questions are great and we can use AI to help us parse the data
 - Reviewed the Faria Site Survey & LCAP for inspiration ([LCAP 2026.pdf](#))
 - Some questions can be used to also inform people. We should be careful how we ask questions because it will influence perception. Use positive/neutral language.
 - Consider asking behavior-based or factual questions instead of or in addition to subjective “how do you feel” questions, because people are often wrong or miscommunicating
 - This is our first try. Let’s focus on questions that will be useful for us. It doesn’t need to be perfect, it will adapt over time.
 - Focus on data we can take action on.