

SAC Minutes for Feb 16 2021

Roll Sheet

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ge_XPnfRqSxEfDzYkLhJwfhRh88T16Md0xYRkUFQyA/edit?usp=sharing

Roll Call- Facilitator Roll call of SAC members: Maria Beatty, Sharath Bennur- ABSENT, Liza Herzog, Maggie Li, Judy Shelton, Meena Ramakrishnana, Barbara Dallao, Maria Kim Yuen, Jessica Brown, Michelle Harrison, Tonya Broussard, Nichole Geiger, Lou Borda- ABSENT, Carolyn Gray, Joanne Donahue, Elana Solomon, Marissa Robinson, Athanasios Mondlas, Sophie Gala

Welcome and Approval of Minutes for January-

Thank you for coming. The role of SAC is to support the school and to help build the school community. It is very important to have parents participate, so thank you for coming.

Minutes for the January meeting are shared (link below), but were not sent out to all SAC members with enough time to review. The secretary apologizes as she thought she had sent them out. The decision is made to hold off on approving the Minutes until next month. The January Minutes will be sent out with the February Minutes a week in advance of the March meeting, so both Minutes can get approved at that time

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dAKYILWwDFn3dUPz7qeHZjyAQkxIWhpCMaD-hpxbPFI/edit?usp=sharing>

Updates from Principal Brown

Thank you to everyone in SAC for their hard work; for putting together the agenda for all of the committee meetings. All of the collaboration is appreciated.

1. **Re Entry plan announced by the SDP-** PreK-2 grades preparing to enter schools February 22nd using the Hybrid Learning Model. However, there was a third party arbitrator appointed to review documents and reports around safe school reopening and his review of that information is still pending. Hopefully this week there will be more information as to if and when this reopening will occur. We are a 5-12 school, so it does not immediately affect us. But, we are preparing so when the school is told to open we can. More information about the planning for this will be shared by the committee that was set up in SAC. We are waiting for the timeline for school openings. In terms of air quality reports from the SDP, the focus is on K-2 right now, so there has been no response, but Masterman is actively working with SDP Facilities to make sure Masterman is ready.
2. **Town Meeting this week for Principals-** Hoping more information will be shared at this meeting and then I will share with the community.
3. **Vaccinations for Staff-** Dr Hite announced today that the vaccination plan kicks off tomorrow and the scheduling starts tomorrow with k-2 teachers.

- 4. Facilities-** Ms Brown has been in the building just about everyday since September and has talked to workers coming into the building. They have been working on areas that were identified with asbestos- the art room and the boys bathroom on the 2nd floor. That has been completed. They also worked on/are working on pipe wraps (covers) that have asbestos and need to be rewrapped. There are 50-60 pipes that need wrapping. They are walking around the building checking on the ceiling tiles and what is under them for asbestos. They are almost finished checking on identifying that. They found a leak in the auditorium and will come back tomorrow to check that and make a plan. The 4th Floor is being worked on this week. This work is separate from the air quality reports. This is abatement and repairs. It has been helpful to be in the building as progress can be checked daily. Ms Brown will let the community know when everything is finished or there are any important updates. There were people in the school to look at the elevators. We have two capital projects that the SDP is working on; the elevator is set to start this year and the roof at a later date TBD.
- 5. Black History Month** - Lessons were created for advisory community meetings around BLM Principles. There is an Art and Poetry contest. All community meetings will be celebrating BHM. In addition, there were NHD documentary screenings for BLM week, last week, during 8th period.
- 6. Amnesty weekends** - Based on feedback from the High School, there will be one in February and one in March as a way to balance the virtual world and the real one. The students need time away from screens. Sophie will fill you in on more.
- 7. Admissions-** Admissions data has been collected by the District and we should know soon what it looks like for Masterman. The hope is to share it with the next SAC. Also the school will be creating a feedback form they will be sending out about the process used this year and how it can be improved, what should remain etc
- 8. Ms Harrison- Restorative Justice Relationships First Program-** Josh Staub from the SDP and Anthony Miller also from the SDP, but Masterman's trainer who will be working with us on PD met with school leadership to introduce the program. The focus is for the school to practice and enforce positive connections. They use a three tiered approach- 1- communication 2- harm and healing 3- welcoming. Staff and students will be getting trained and student leaders as well. This is a SDP initiative There has only been one meeting so far, but there will be more and professional development for staff and this program is looking to help restore a healthy culture of community at Masterman. Students and staff are excited about this. Reach out to Ms Harrison if you want to be connected. The first cohort of people to be trained can include parents, so if parents want to be involved contact her
- 9. State Assessments-** PSSA- as of now it is still on the SDP calendar. Letters have been written to the State to ask to waive it due to Covid. Principal Unions wrote to State reps and

even Biden to eliminate that for the year. Please write your State Representatives about this if you have concerns.

10. Ms Broussard- SDP Benchmark testing- The SDP is collecting data around STAR and AIMS diagnostic Benchmark testing to get info around students and their learning. This is happening throughout the District. At Masterman we use AIMS Web Plus for grade 5 and STAR for grades 6-12. There are four tiers- Tier 1- At or above benchmark proficiency. In Math we are at 97% in grades 6-8 and 99% in grades 9-12. In Reading we are at 97% in grades 6-8 and 98%. Tier 2- Watch category Tiers 3 and 4 Strategic Interventions and Intensive interventions. For all students in Tiers 2-4, we look at the skills students are struggling with and put tutoring in place. These tests are given 4 times a year. Parents are informed about testing dates and data via SDP and Masterman.

Questions:

1. Two Amnesty Weekends- A suggestion was made to rename this as amnesty implies that something is pardoned. SAC has discussed this in the past and agreed and could be addressed again and the name changed?
2. Admissions- follow up. Glad for a follow up feedback form. Is it possible to confirm this year that if you made the 88th % or above, you were considered for admission and then it was looked at with grades and zip codes. In the past, it said 88% on the requirements, but only the students with the highest scores were admitted. Also are students with 88% and above all considered the same?
3. How does the waitlist work?

Facilitator- Moved to discuss these issues at the end of the meeting with new business as we have an agenda to get through first.

High School Update-Sophie Gala- She believes students would like to keep it named Amnesty week as SGA refers to it as such and the seniors use that word for their college work weeks. SGA wants to make sure that it is universal and she believes students are okay with the word staying the same. SGA focused on three areas still:

1. Year long plans- Feedback forms. They are now doing it every other week so more people will fill them out and get more specific information
2. Student Advocacy- Consistent feedback throughout the year has been shared around virtual learning. They have gotten a lot of support from the administration. They have also been working with the MS SGA. SGA got amnesty weekends in Feb and March for the HS and most teachers can follow these plans unless due dates were set in advance
3. Events- March 12- Virtual Talent Show. Figuring how to do this with having students audition and sign up. Spirit Week March 22-26. Currently have a schedule and everyone is planning.

The Teaching and Learning survey was given to advisors to share

Middle School Update-Thanos Mondlak- Working on one project at a time. Right now they are working on buddies with grades 5 and 7 and 6 and 8. Ms Brown implemented a 7th and 8th grade planning calendar for teachers. Ms Brown asked if this has been helping. Thanos reported that yes, it has helped. There have been less assignments planned on one night. Said it was also needed for 5th and 6th grade.

Committee Reports

- a. Health and Wellness-Meena Ramakrishnan and Maggie Li -5:30-5:35PM

February Minutes Link-

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11gy_9rDAifHtO4o9ONifDw6OmzgDxbQ5te9R-vKmA34/edit?usp=sharing

Overview- for more detailed information please click on the link to read the Minutes.

Two meetings occurred under this committee this month.

2/10- Covid Advisory Group- A new ad-hoc committee. This was their first meeting with 6 parents/experts and Ms Brown and Ms. Shalala. Ms Brown shared the hybrid learning manual draft. They brainstormed around setting up Masterman's version of a plan to oversee key priority areas around returning protocols, screenings, inventory, PPE supplies and common space examination. The focus is starting with 5th and 6th as the thought is they most likely will be coming back into the building first. Next steps filling in early priority actions around classroom set up and ppe.

2/11- Health and Wellness meeting. Student, parent and staff fatigue was the topic.

If you want to join the committee, reach out to the SAC via email on the webpage and we will put you in touch with the right person.

- b. Teaching and Learning-Liza Herzog/Joanne Donahue - 5:35-5:40PM

No Minutes submitted yet.

Joanne Donahue shared an update- Met 2/9- 7 parents and one teacher present. There was an increase in the numbers of surveys turned in. Both students and parents were in the low 200s for completed surveys and are now in the high 300s. People can no longer fill out the survey, it is closed. All data will be updated on the slide show (found on the SAC website). However, there was little change in the results. It shall be similar to last month's presentations. The new input confirmed the data earlier collected which was the desire to address the following interests:

1. Reduce screen time- school wide policy is needed and essential
2. One on one check ins by teachers once a marking period should be added
3. Flexible assessments created

The committee will begin to look at MS and HS needs individually.

- c. Bylaws and Government-Judy Shelton/Elana Solomon- 5:40-5:45PM

February Minutes Link- Link to Bylaws included

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EDiz61cCbqgP-Ednl0u20d3NZJL58xHtD_VRqg6PBGQ/edit?usp=sharing

Bylaws made to help guide smooth processes so SAC is transparent and easy for SAC members to follow from year to year. Written to promote consistency. This process has been in the works since 2018. A lot of research went into it and bylaws from other schools pulled. Information from the SDP SAC guidelines and the 920 form also included.

Q- Elections- When will they be? - Elections are covered in the bylaws as well. In terms of this year, we have not set a timeline yet for next year's elections.

Judy- Organizer- She is working on that right now. She will work with leadership and Ms Brown to send out links and the process. She foresees it happening in April

Q- How will the public have a chance to review it? There is a link on the agenda in the Bylaws Committee Minutes (above) Ms Elana (Secretary) will also send a link to Austin and Mikaela to have it placed on the website and then Ms Brown will let parents know it is there. Any feedback can be sent to sac.masterman214@gmail.com

- d. DEI- - Co-Chairs Marissa Robinson/Carolyn Grey- 5:45-5:50

February Minutes Link-

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cbCh9IGOGBVNDKihfkTG2-TJO_RnbwVWZpX9zbigtAQ/edit?usp=sharing

Ms Robinson first wanted to address the SAC. In October 2020 she was sent an email from parents affiliated with HSA DEI about their pessimism around her position and it's worth. She recently received another email from another parent in the same group, in early February 2021. The tone again was accusatory and berating for not attending the HSA DEI meetings and more.

Ms Robinson wanted to share that she is running the SAC DEI in addition to working very hard everyday for and with the school community. She wants parent support. She feels it is very important to work together and extend grace and understand that words have power and for people to think about the privilege they have with their words. Tone is important as well as respect and moving forward, if addressing concerns, could it be done in a thoughtful and understanding manner realizing that we are all dedicated to this work/

Ms Brown, Ms Grey, Ms Elana and Ms Dallao all spoke out against this form of non-inclusive, unkind communication and in support of the hard work Ms Robinson has been doing in addition to the

positive feedback that Ms Dallao has heard from parents. HSA leadership was not aware of or in support of these types of emails.

Next Meetings: Will be shared with the community by Ms Brown

March 1- Parents interested in the welcome group.

March 9- All DEI

FACE Update- Melanie Oeun-Greenhalgh from FACE-- No update. Happy to have bylaws with meat on them. It is something she has wanted for years. She also will make sure it is shared with the community for review by following up with us.

Facilitator- Ms Melanie- works for the SDP and works for many SACs across the District.

HSA Update- Barbara Dallao- All last week the HSA sponsored many multi-cultural events. One was the cooking demonstrations from many cultures. It was lovely, in an intimate setting and people had a chance to share and reflect about it. As there was no big dinner this year, this was their first time doing this. It turned out to be quite hard to do, but was well worth it. HSA is looking to post recorded demos for the community.

Upcoming Events- More details in the newsletter:

Feb 22- DEI/AR- Microaggressions presentation

Feb 24- African Dance Troupe

Update on the Facility HSA meeting- There is a difference between ventilation vs asbestos and the HSA has requested but have yet to receive design data reports. They are still waiting for requested info. They are also waiting for scope and sequence for the roof and elevator plan. Parents officially formed an HSA environmental and asbestos committee. This was based on parent's desire to be sure students and staff are safe in Masterman. Jerry Roseman (PFT Environmental consultant) attended the last HSA meeting which was well attended. He presented and answered questions. HSA Executive Board elections will be held in April. They are in the process of forming the nominations committee.

Old Business- None needed review

New Business

Q- From earlier in the Minutes after the Principal's report- How does the waitlist work?

A- The waitlist is handled by student enrollment at SDP and they, specifically, Darnell James will be answering all questions in regard to this. Ms Brown shared that the school created the list, but how people come off of it is handled by the SDP. This is the process that has been established and is in their hands.

Q- Can that office openly share

1. How was the WL created?

2. How kids are taken off the waitlist?
3. What was the exact admissions process?

Q- Can it be shared with all parents?

Q- Why can a principal not give the answers? Why does the SDP have to give the answers?

Q- Many Asian students who have the highest of scores and grades were not admitted? They were rejected due to overcrowding. These are kids from non-wealthy neighborhoods too. What was the exact criteria used? Many of them are not strong English speakers and do not know who to call and how to get their questions answered and were not clear on what was this process. How are you reaching these communities?

A- Ms Brown explained that Masterman had an admissions presentation in the beginning of the year and posted the slide deck from it on the website. The community had access to this information in the Fall. There were many changes from the SDP including the zip code catchment. These alterations to the admissions process really changed things up. Please contact the SDP Office of Student Enrollment

Facilitator- Ended the meetings it was 6:42.