



MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAM

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

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 4 pm (EST) via remote teleconference

School Leadership Present: Principal Helena Payne Chauvenet;
Assistant Principal Andrew Lardell

LSAT Members Present: Richard Parker, Ashley Quarcoo, Maria Cali, VanNessa Duckett,
Emily Paterson, Abby Sparrow

LSAT Members Absent: Amy Daniels, Darchiniquia Smith, Shavanna Miller, Amy Toner,
Rebecca Sanghvi, Rachel Schwartz, Angela Stover, Elizabeth Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 pm (EST) by the Chair.

1. **Previous Meeting Minutes.** Minutes of the February 2023 LSAT meetings were unanimously approved by roll call vote. The motion to adopt was put forward by Emily Paterson and seconded by Ashley Quarcoo.
2. **Community Comments.**
A parent member shared that their child (Maury student) wished to ask school leaders to please consider turning off the overhead lights in the teachers' copy and mail room in the Front Office and in other areas of the school at night in order to conserve electricity and thus help protect the environment and save wildlife.
3. **LSAT Focus Topics**
 - Comprehensive School Plan [Principal Payne Chauvenet]
Parent-Teacher and APTT conferences have been held recently at the school during which parents/caretakers/guardians were provided with progress reports for their respective student(s). The school will conduct a second outreach to get student progress information to parents/caretakers/guardians who were unable to attend those conferences.

School leadership is looking toward preliminary goal work and planning, to occur by the end of Spring, for the SY2023-24 CSP. Before the end of this school year,

school leadership will conduct a building-wide needs assessment with respect to current CSP goals and determine what shifts, if any, should be made. Additional work on the CSP during the summer will take place at the District level. The school's SY2023-24 CSP is anticipated to be finalized during August 2023.

- Budget – SY2022-23

Update on positions - mid-year budget supplement

1. The front office clerk started last week (Thursday, March 9, 2023), and will be in the position for the remainder of the school year.
2. With respect to the second full-time PE position, there is still paperwork to process to complete hiring but it is being filled with a long-term substitute.
3. The intervention coach position has been the hardest to fill. This is due to a couple of reasons: It is posted as a coach position and not a teacher position and the mid-year timing draws a limited applicant pool particularly with respect to folks who want a full-time position starting immediately. Principal Payne Chauvenet observed it is generally harder to fill teaching positions (even to fill for teachers on leave) during the mid to late school year. She shared that she is looking at options with respect to this position.

In addition, a current PTA aide supporting early childhood creative movement and recess will soon become a DCPS para in Kindergarten, and another PTA aide will come to provide early childhood creative movement and recess support.

4. **Budget SY2023-24**

Discussion of the implications of the FY2023-24 budget, primarily dealing with the impact of the loss of the math interventionist and the resulting changes or shifts for the next school year.

Principal Payne Chauvenet explained that the math interventionist tutors students and provides training at specific grade levels. Training will fall back on the math lead (AP Lardell), but he cannot do it all so there will have to be changes in how trainings are scheduled throughout the year next year. School leadership will have to determine how the specific tasks currently performed by the math interventionist can be rolled into existing resources and roles. The math interventionist generally works with grades 1 through 5, focusing on students, including students new to Maury, who need intensive intervention. The school will be looking at classroom opportunities and other resources to support students with high needs.

Q: Would it be possible for parents to provide math tutoring to students, similar to the parent-provided reading tutoring offered several years ago at Maury?

A: Principal Payne Chauvenet noted that that tutoring was prior to her tenure at Maury but she heard there had been concerns about confidentiality regarding student information. In addition, she noted that it would require volunteers who can commit to the entire year at the same day and same time and who are knowledgeable about content and can effectively work with students with intervention needs.

A: Assistant Principal Lardell shared that he would welcome parent participation in the after-school tutoring program already in place, particularly for K-2 students. It was noted that this program will wrap up in April when resources are positioned to prepare for and conduct PARCC exams.

5. **What can the LSAT do to continue to support the school?**

1. School facilities - DGS work order status. The school had several work orders completed during a short time frame in February. Delays continue, but the school is seeing improvement in waiting time for repairs. Two areas for community advocacy – broken playground window and broken playground gate.
2. School enrollment – DCPS lottery results come out March 31st and enrollment season begins. Early enrollment/re-enrollment is helpful for school planning and budgeting. Principal Payne Chauvenet indicated that they would like to see 80%-85% enrollment before the end of this school year. In that regard, she would appreciate community communications and efforts aimed at encouraging student enrollment.

Maury's "Enrollment Saturday" will be held April 29, 2023, and will include a uniform swap and some tours for new families.

3. Field Trips – Various grades have taken field trips this year, some have taken more than others. One example given is that early childhood was able to restore Maury's traditional annual trip to the pumpkin patch in the Fall.

A teacher member noted that DCPS has made it harder for teachers and schools to lead field trips because it is still taking DCPS a long time to complete the process to approve security clearance applications from parents/caretakers/guardians and thus limiting the number of chaperones available; teachers have had to learn to use a new DCPS portal to fill out the requisite forms and information; and, DCPS has put new restrictions on bus vendors resulting in fewer vendor options and more expensive costs.

It was also noted that many teachers are waiting until the weather improves (i.e., gets warmer) before taking classes out on field trips.

Areas for parent/caretaker/guardian advocacy: On the DCPS level is to encourage DCPS to streamline the field trip process and therefore encourage greater family engagement with schools, and on the school level is to encourage interested parents/caretakers/guardians to apply for security clearances early so there will be sufficient numbers of chaperones available for future field trips.

Q: Is there a required number of chaperones as chaperone/student ratio?

A: Yes – DCPS general policy is 1:10 ratio. But it was also noted that the number of chaperones desired also depends on the age of the students and the nature of the field trip – more chaperones for younger students and particularly when going on a field trip to less controlled environments (e.g., pumpkin patch where the teachers wanted a 1:2 ratio.)

The Fifth Grade has taken several field trips this year, which is part of the capstone experience. A teacher member noted that this has been possible in large part due to many successful fundraising efforts this year. She noted that this might not be sustainable in light of increasing class sizes and rising costs.

Q: What is the impact of DCPS's centralization of the field trip process?
A: Most of the work, e.g., getting out permissions slips and uploading returned signed forms, and internal approval of trips is still done by the school. The location of the field trip, distance away from DC, impacts the approval process.

6. **DC/DCPS plan updates**

- 2023 DC Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) studies
2023 Master Facilities Plan (MFP)
Student Assignment & School Boundaries
- DCPS Strategic Plan 2023-2028

The chair announced that he is unaware of any updates as to these plans. He noted that on February 8, 2023, DME released the 2022 MFP annual supplement, but that the supplement did not include information about facilities' conditions that are to be included in the full plan.

Principal Payne Chauvenet reported that with respect to the DCPS Strategic Plan 2023-2028 there have been preliminary meetings focusing on what the Plan's vision will be but no specific goals have yet been announced.

7. **Community Comments**

There were no community comments.

8. **New Business**

There was no new business.

Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:38 pm (EST).

The next regularly scheduled LSAT meeting will be held at 4pm, on Tuesday, April 11, 2023, via TEAMS.