



# MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAM

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

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 4 pm (EST) via remote teleconference

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

**LSAT Members Present:** Richard Parker, Shavanna Miller, Amy Toner, VanNessa Duckett,  
Emily Paterson, Rachel Schwartz, and Elizabeth Nelson

**LSAT Members Absent:** Amy Daniels, Ashley Quarcoo, Darchiniquia Smith, Maria Cali,  
Rebecca Sanghvi, Abby Sparrow, and Angela Stover

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm (EST) by the Chair.

1. **Previous Meeting Minutes.** There were no changes or corrections to the minutes of the April 11, 2023 LSAT meeting, and they were approved and adopted.
2. **Community Comments.**  
There were no community comments.
3. **LSAT Focus Topics**
  - **Budget – SY2023-2024**  
The Chair noted that the DC City Council's report on budget recommendations provides for an additional \$72,681 for Maury's SY2023-24 budget, as part of its efforts to restore Schools First in Budgeting funding to schools. Even if Maury ultimately receives those funds, the school would still need \$42,481 additional funds to restore the Math Interventionist position (based on FY24 cost for a teacher of \$115,162). The Chair suggested that parent advocacy for additional funds (specifically the \$42,481) be directed at City Council members.

Principal Payne Chauvenet indicated that she has not received any information from DCPS with respect to the City Council's budget recommendation. She had no substantive budget updates.

- **Enrollment, Lottery Results, and Waitlist Movement**

Principal Payne Chauvenet shared that, as of today (May 9, 2023), Maury has 352 enrollments for SY2023-2024. That number represents 65% of projected enrollment and surpasses the DCPS goal of 60% re-enrollment by May 5, 2023. The next DCPS goal for schools is 90% re-enrollment by early June 2023. Principal Payne Chauvenet also shared enrollment percentages for various grades: PK3 at 83% (deadline past); rising K at 79%, rising 2nd Grade at 60%; rising 4th Grade at 51%, and rising 5th Grade at 46%.

Q: How is student attendance, including chronic absenteeism, at the school?

A: Principal Payne Chauvenet responded that attendance was at 95% for Term 3, which is average for that term. Chronic absenteeism was in single digits, and lower as compared to last year.

- **Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) update**

Principal Payne Chauvenet noted that PARCC mostly impacts the upper grades (3rd, 4th, and 5th), and that things for PK through 2nd are kept as normal as possible. She shared that testing is going smoothly and that students, on average, appear comfortable taking the test. AP Lardell noted that an initial technical glitch with TestNav (the online test delivery platform) and TEAMS that had briefly impacted some students during testing has been resolved.

- **Comprehensive School Plan (CSP) - Progress to Date**

Principal Payne Chauvenet noted that although end-of-the-year testing data is not yet available, individual classroom monitoring continues, including DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) in Grades K through 2nd. She noted that with respect to Shared Leadership goals: informal feedback touchpoints have increased, walk throughs took place in Terms 2 & 3 and the leadership team is reviewing progress during Term 4 (looking to see that data will confirm observed growth and with an eye of planning supports and other structures to support continued growth). With respect to Culture of Achievement behavioral measures, Principal Payne Chauvenet reported a slight uptick with issues during Term 3. The 5th Grade cohort continues to have the most referrals and supports have been put into place. With respect to Engagement goals, Principal Payne Chauvenet noted that the school saw the normal drop of parent/caretaker/guardian attendance in second-round conferences (as compared to first-round PTC and APTT meetings) with participation being in the high 70s/low 80s percent. The Chair observed that teachers continue to meet one-on-one with families on request and suggested that engagement numbers would be higher if those meetings were included in the Engagement data. Principal Payne Chauvenet added that other parent-teacher meetings, such as those held to discuss SPED and 504 services, are also engagement touch points not included in totals. She shared that she hopes to continue to improve school engagement efforts..

4. **Discussion: Inclusive Practices to Support SEL & Academic Efforts**  
In anticipation of the drafting of Maury's 2023-2024 Comprehensive School Plan (CSP), the committee discussed recommendations of ways to foster and expand inclusiveness in social-emotional learning (SEL) and academic efforts and opportunities. The Chair indicated his belief that consistency is important for students and recommended the LSAT consider ways to better communicate and consistently enforce school policies, rules, and regulations. He suggested that this could possibly include updating and changing current policies, rules, and regulations. He suggested that areas for consideration might include the school's policies on school uniforms and homework. He made other recommendations, including that general education teachers receive training on neurodiversity; that appropriate structured play opportunities and safe spaces be made available to all students who wish to take advantage of and/or would benefit from those opportunities during recess; that next year's Mathademics competition be expanded to allow more students to participate given that there was a large number of students who wanted to participate this year; that the school student paper be provided with an advisor, publication guidelines, and submissions opened to all students; and that a consistent policy on field trips be adopted across grades that includes increasing the number of field trips for all grades and ensuring all grades have field trips during the school year. A teacher member expressly supported the recommendation for professional development training for teachers on neurodiversity. With respect to Mathedemics, it was discussed how to use the competition to focus primarily on recognizing those students who excel at math while providing opportunity for all interested students - one suggestion was to start a math club. There was also discussion with respect to several other of the recommendations with the view that the discussion will continue at the next LSAT meeting within the context of the CSP's development.

5. **DC/DCPS plan updates**

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

The Chair noted that the DME will host two virtual town halls about facilities (MFP) and two virtual town halls about student assignment (Boundary Study). Master Facilities Plan meetings Tuesday, May 9 at 6 – 7:30 pm, and Wednesday, May 10 at 6 – 7:30 pm. Both town halls will cover the same content. Boundary Study meetings: Tuesday, May 16 at 6 – 7:30 pm; Wednesday, May 17 at 6 – 7:30 pm. Both town halls will cover the same content.

With respect to the Master Facilities Plan, Principal Payne Chauvenet informed the committee that one or more individuals will be coming to the school to review the school's use of learning spaces. When asked if they would also look at parts of the building needing repairs, e.g., the broken door to the playground, she replied that they would be looking solely at space usage. And with respect to the DCPS Strategic Plan 2023-2028, Principal Payne Chauvenet opined that it is likely that we will see more on the plan from DCPS in the summer.

6. **LSAT Elections**

The Chair noted that elections for Maury LSAT parent representatives for next school year (SY2023-2024) are being held this month. The LSAT parent representative nomination period is open from May 3, 2023, to May 17, 2023. Voting details will be provided after nominations close. All LSAT parent representative nominations and voting will be done online this year and will be coordinated by the PTA Parliamentarian along with Principal Payne Chauvenet. The Chair asked current LSAT members to encourage eligible Maury parents/caretakers/guardians to run for a position.

7. **Community Comments**

A community member echoed concern over the inconsistency of field trips across grades, noting specifically that the current 4th Grade classes have not taken a single field trip this school year. This led to a series of questions and discussion on field trips. It was noted that the lack of a 4th Grade field trip is unusual and due to unique circumstances. Principal Payne Chauvenet stated that the lack of field trips is not a school-wide experience this year, but acknowledged that there is room for growth and improvement including more field trips and more consistency among grades K through 4. She explained that 5th Grade already has a large number of field trips and outside experiences as part of the capstone experience made possible through 5th Grade parents' coordinated fundraising and planning efforts each year.

8. **New Business**

There was no new business.

**Adjournment**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 5:03 pm (EST).

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The next regularly scheduled LSAT meeting (the last for SY2023-2024) will be held at 4 pm, on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, via TEAMS.