MAURY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
LOCAL SCHOOL ADVISORY TEAM

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

Meeting Agenda – SY2024-2025 Fifth Meeting
January 14, 2025, 4 pm in person at Maury with teleconference option (login info below)

Call to order

Welcome and Roll Call; Meeting Guidelines / Norms

Community Comments (2 minutes each)- None

Icebreaker- Participants asked to introduce themselves and their priority for the budget

and other discussions.

Supporting the Achievement of Comprehensive School Plan Goals:

1. **Social-Emotional Learning Progress & Impact of Additional 5th Grade**

   Classroom, Laura Delaney

- Ms. Delaney described important improvements in fifth grade students as a result of the additional classroom teacher, through increased ability to address social-emotional needs.

- She emphasized that Maury values socio-emotional learning and has great vision but it could be so much greater if there was more manpower. She described the following mental health resources at Maury:

    - Second step and Ally elementary curricula

    - Lunch bunches for new students

    - Social skills groups for students with a shared experience (e.g. divorce, separation from families)

    - Roots of empathy (4th grade)

    - For other grades it has been "harder to pick something and stick with it" given the shortage of staff

    - The library also teaches on core topics, such as bullying

    - Circle of girls will discuss bullying (library)

- The "wellness team" at Maury includes Ms. Delaney, a behavior technician, a school psychologist, Principal Hassler and Vice Principal Lardell. Patrick Koontz is also assisting. The school psychologist is primarily responsible for testing students for qualification for IEP and/or 504s.

- Ms. Delaney noted that if we had another person that could address issues that are not at a crisis level, that would really help. They would help at all levels, because all levels have needs. A behavior technician is the first line of contact for a child with a behavioral issue.

- With the reduction of para-professionals among classes at the higher level, this behavior technician is especially important.

- One member mentioned that as a teacher, it's difficult to cover all aspects of the SEL curriculum, so the behavior technician would be really helpful.

- A question arose as to whether it was a DCPS wide policy to do away with school counsellors. Examples were given of other DCPS schools that have several school counsellors.

- The topic of bullying was discussed. Acting Principal Lardell is the official Maury bullying liaison and said the incidents at Maury were very low, and a strict protocol is in place to address it and report data annually to DCPS.

- Acting Principal Lardell also mentioned that some schools convert one of their Assistant Principals to focus on SEL; this is often in Title 1 schools.

- The group discussed whether it was realistic to be planning for additional funding, and it was agreed that we should also be considering how to handle potential cuts from DCPS, as that has been the trend in recent years.

- Requests were made if we can have descriptions of specific roles requested for the budget, coupled with information (e.g. organogram) about the current positions and roles, so that we can better understand the needs during the budget discussions.

- A member suggested that DCPS also provides guides on positions and allocations that we can review.

- The group discussed if there were other organizations that could be partners of Maury to bring new funding. The PTA agreed to discuss whether a grants committee could be added to the PTA to assist Maury to identify potential grants.

2. **Impact of technology improvements in 2024-2025- Acting Principal Lardell**

- Acting Principal Lardell shared an update on the impact of technology improvements since the end of last year. He shared big improvements had been made and progress was promising.
    - At the end of last year, the school did a push to adopt more technology.
    - In the summer we received 6 carts of USED laptops from other middle/ high schools for grades 2 onward. Also received 40 iPADS. We had some hiccups but DCPS was able to fix the issues for some. We are over the number of computers we need for the population.
    - We have an amazing technician who will fix any problem.
    - Almost all the classrooms have smart boards. We have a training on Thursday on smartboards to help teachers use the boards correctly.
    - So far, there are no complaints from teachers, and we have a ticketing system for IT problems work well.

Community questions- there were no community questions.

New Business- The Chair expressed gratitude to library and suggested we could review how to make supplies and resources for the library available.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm

Microsoft Teams Need help?
Join the meeting now
Meeting ID: 249 413 012 037
Passcode: qT5NH4

Dial in by phone
+1 202-539-8006,,769995386# United States, Washington
Find a local number
Phone conference ID: 769 995 386#
Join on a video conferencing device
Tenant key: dcpscvi@m.webex.com
Video ID: 114 738 310 7
More info
For organizers: Meeting options | Reset dial-in PIN