



Monument Academy

School Accountability Advisory Committee (SAAC)

Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 23, 2023
1:00 pm, MA East Conference Room

Participants: David Kennington, Lindsay Clinton, Char Sellers, Pam Garcia, Tinna Warthan, Kurt Wolfe, Emily Davis

Meeting open to members of the public. No members of the public in attendance.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call – (Time) Mr. Kennington
 - a. Excused absences: Collin Vinchattle, Jilinda Dygert, Sheri Parks
2. Approval of Agenda –
 - a. Changed Agenda Item 8 “District Board of Ed Update” to “PCAC Update,”
 - b. Change voted and approved.
3. Approval of 9/11/23 Meeting Minutes
 - a. Voted and approved as submitted.
4. Announce November and December 2023 Meeting Dates.
 - a. The following will be the scheduled SAAC meeting dates for remainder of the 2023-2024 school year:
November 13, 2023
December 11, 2023
January 8, 2024
February 12, 2024
March – SKIP
April 8, 2024
May 13, 2024

All meetings are scheduled for 1:00PM.

SAAC Chair for 2024-2025 academic year will be voted into office during the April or May meeting and will begin serving late-summer in order to appoint a secretary among interested prior committee members and initiate—in collaboration with the principals—current year SAAC applications, formation and scheduling of first meeting in August or September.

5. 2023 Middle School & High School Mid-Year Survey

- a. **Review of Survey Questions – It was recommended we add a question (s) to the survey concerning opportunities to volunteer, with the goal of identifying barriers to parents/guardians volunteering and inform them of various types of volunteer opportunities and how to learn about the opportunities and log hours after volunteering.**
- b. **Discussion: Potentially adding a link to the conclusion of the survey showing volunteer opportunities available. How do we communicate and what verbiage to we use to suggest we need more volunteers? Mrs. Sellers will email a draft question to Mr. Kennington to be discussed and voted on at the next meeting.**
- c. **Approval of Survey Open and Close Dates – Coordinate these dates with SAAC West. Vote next meeting.**

6. Principals' Updates – Mr. Kennington & Mr. Vinchattle

a. Middle School

Mr. Kennington read the middle school update provided by Mr. Vinchattle in his absence. The middle school is focused on helping students who are struggling in classes or those who just need extra time on their homework. Students have options such as study tables and/or intervention groups which are done in place of peaks and clubs.

b. High School

Mr. Kennington reported the high school is focusing on measuring academic excellence through PSAT/SAT testing which will be entered into a quarterly dashboard. PSAT/SAT gives good data to administration immediately Three ways to accomplish this will be:

- i. **Yearlong prep in core classes. A 260 word vocabulary list will be distributed in chunks of ten throughout the year prior to the test. They will also focus on words in context.**
- ii. **Students will learn how to take the SAT and how to take an online test. (Tips and tricks). SAT prep sessions will begin today for juniors.**
- iii. **During Spring, they will focus prep in test-taking skills. Goal is to bring top performers even higher and significant improvement to all levels. Although the College Board does not allow schools to release SAT scores until school has already started, the principals do have access to those scores soon enough to begin addressing the individual growth needs of students even before scores can be released. Therefore, there is still educational value for students to take the SAT.**
- iv. **If students do not meet graduation requirements through SAT scores, they can complete an essay/speech for English and a mini SAT for Math through Capstone.**

v. PSAT/SAT participation rate is 96-98% in high school.

vi. Fall College Board data has scholarship opportunity.

7. Board Update – Mrs. Clinton – Each school has fewer students than expected, leading to a \$1.3 million budget deficit. Money will be re-directed from other areas to help the deficit. Thursday's board meeting will cover this, as well as cover the resolution passed in June.

Mrs. Sellers asked if SAAC members can be assigned to attend meetings of other school committees that are working in areas of SAAC advisory purview, such as Finance Committee, Safety Committee, Curriculum Committee in order to be able to advise in these areas as stated in the SAAC bylaws. Mrs. Clinton will research this and address it further when we meet again.

8. PCAC – Mrs. Dygert – not present

9. SAAC Bylaws Discussion – Mrs. Sellers – SAAC approved a subcommittee to include chairpersons from both east and west campuses to meet with principals if principals would like to be included. Char Sellers appointed Emily Davis, if she agrees, to join Mrs. Sellers on this subcommittee for SAAC East. Mrs. Davis accepted. Mrs. Sellers will collaborate with SAAC West Chair to schedule this sub-committee meeting in January.

10. Adjournment: (2:16PM) Char Sellers