



Sela PCS Board Meeting Minutes

Date: December 18, 2024, 6:45 pm

Location: Zoom

Attendance:

<i>Name</i>	<i>Role</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Ryan Tauriainen	Board member and chair	Present
Chris Wilson	Board member	Present
Alen Amini	Board member	Present
Reut Rozenberg	Board member	Absent
Rose Benson	Board member	Present
Anika Wilkins	Board member	Present
Ezra Karger	Board member	Present
Amberine Huda	Board member	Present
Nathan Groce	Board member	Absent
Bryce Jacobs	Board member	Present
Steve Messner	Board member	Present
Justin Rubin	Board member	Present
Michael Walker	Board member	Present
Josh Bork	Head of school (non-voting)	Present
Ryan Benjamin	Director of operations (non-voting)	Present

Minutes: [Rose Benson]

Timekeeper: [Bryce Jacobs]

Agenda (Attached as Appendix A)

[Agenda Sela Board Meeting December 2024](#)

The meeting started at 6:49 pm

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Michael moved to ratify the meeting minutes from the November 16th board meeting. **Bryce** seconded.

In favor: [**Ryan, Justin, Steve, Anika,**]

Opposed: [**none**]

Abstained: [Ezra, Christopher, Amberine]

Mission moments

Board members reported that Josh and Sela PCS hosted School Leader Lab and DC School Leader Professional Learning Community in December.

Head of School (HOS) report highlights

Ed Fest went very well, booklet put together by Ms. Sam. 7 open houses are scheduled.

Recruitment strategy: About 75 families provided contact info at EdFest. When we move to 2025, we will be doing the open houses and a lot of canvassing, including the old Walter Reed area.

Canvassing: leaving flyers, lawn signs, door to door, we would like to get on neighborhood listservs to get our name out there.

5th grade family night - personal recommendations, in-person event where we invite schools to attend, especially alumni who have successfully attended these middle schools.

Academic update - Winter MAP testing will happen in mid January and thus available at the February meeting. Testing is done 3 times per year. Fall, Winter and End of year.

Update from MKS consulting - report attached here -Bryce has questions regarding the report from Maureen, which will be covered in the DC report card discussion and sent via email.

Staff surveys will be open over winter break.

Family surveys - going out after break

Bryce asks question as to whether surveys will be sent out and going to a board email rather than the school. This was discussed at a previous meeting and will be done.

Josh says its a tool for the school for what we can do to improve, and has no issue.

Faculty party, donated by a contact of Bryce, a new donor to school. Thank you to her for that, it was a good time.

DC School Report Card

Presentation to be added here.

Discussion over what each section of the report card means and how we performed.

Room for growth in our CLASS score, specifically with regard to Instructional Support.

Plan of Action for the PreK environment - CLASS style observations by Ms. Sam and Ms. Shira, every two months. Weekly non class style observations, in PK Classrooms. 11/12 PK teachers have received professional development, the 12th.

Questions on how this will differ from next steps taken in past years.

Access Testing for ELLs, 100% met target. - no plan of action as a result of meeting our goals.

Elementary Academic Achievement - We received 17.5 out of the 30 points available. Plan of action: Restructuring of small group time, as teachers were not getting to their small group times so a schedule change was made. Interventions: we are looking to create Push groups, for those students on the cusp receiving a 3 or 4 on CAPE. These push groups have been successful for the few that we had last year and we'll be starting them earlier this year, held by Josh, Markus, Ryan, Katrina, Ryan and Eulysa. 2 practice CAPE tests with data analysis. Big school wide push for Motivation around DC Cape.

Bryce: Are we using data effectively to focus on the right students to make sure they are getting the interventions that they need?

Josh using data from MAP tests. These MAP tests and CAPE data are from the Fall/last year as baselines, in addition to using data collected each week and discussed in weekly data meetings.

Anika:- we have the MAP scores from the second graders, has there been any look at the 3rd graders performance in CAPE and to what they looked like in Second grade?

There is a predictive tool part of MAP, which does not always track to CAPE. Usually there is a correlation but not always.

NWEA MAP, DC CAPE, and our curricula are all correlated to Common Core standards. Good Tier 1 instruction.

Academic Growth - we received 3.5 out of 50 points. Growth scores on DC Cape for 4th/5th were much lower than they need to be. Motivation, Culture and Grouping next steps - Reading Specialist supports daily groups for grades 3-5, Math specialist supports daily groups in 4-5. Reading specialist pushes into classrooms to support tier 1 instruction, as well as co-planning. The math specialist pushes into a number of classrooms, and coaches teachers with Eureka bootcamp to translate into better tier 1 instruction. MTSS: overhaul that includes handbook/procedures review and new referral process.

Ownership of various aspects of planned actions with different members of the leadership team to ensure accountability.

Bryce would like to focus on the disaggregated data, as noted in Maureen's report and has questions about the implementation of the data meetings and MTSS.

Strategic Plan Vote

Alen moves to approve the Strategic Plan. Justin seconds.

In favor: [Rose, Ryan, Bryce, Ezra, Amberine, Anika]

Opposed: [none]

Abstained: [Michael]

New Committee Assignments

New board member committees. Is Ryan serving as ex officio. Every committee invitation goes out to each board member.

Committees are considered closed meetings, as a result of not being a quorum.

We've never had committees with just one member besides just the chair. It's not great to have only 2 members, and we encourage members to join meetings as possible or agree to sit on more than one committee.

Public Comment: (not a venue for negative comments regarding personnel)

If there is a member of the public that would like to speak, please use the hand raising button.

Katrina Hilliard - Provided compliment about a Sela staff member.

Sheena Dasani - Provided compliment about multiple Sela staff members.

Tiana Jorman - Shared concerns about recent communication.

Alicia Richards: Provided compliment about Sela and its staff members.

Nick Warmington - Provided compliment about a Sela staff member.

Julie Shain: Provided compliment about Sela.

Alice Nie: Provided compliment about Sela.

Rebecca Gan: Shared concerns with systemic issues.

Stephanie Milberg: Provided compliment about Sela.

Joy Phillips: Provided compliment about Sela staff members and also shared concerns with this year.

Halli Faulkner: Shared concerns about last year.

J'Naye McDonald: Asked the Board a question about process.

MaryGrace Lucas: Shared concerns about programming.

Alen moves to go to closed session. Justin seconds.

Yes: Rose, Chris, Bryce, Ezra, Michael, Anika, Steve, Amberine, Ryan.

Unanimous.