

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

October 2023 School Council Meeting Notes

School Council members in attendance: Abdel Sepulveda, Maria Collins, Carmela Ulmschneider, Jennifer Hedrington, Nicole Sullivan, Marissa Fried, Melissa Garcia, Michele Lippens

Introduction and acknowledgment of terrorist attack on Israel — Mr. S.

Approval of last meeting minutes — Approved.

Presentation of MCAS Data — Mr. S.

Baseline is spring 2022. MA accountability system consists of 2 components:

Normative Component (Accountability %ile)

Criterion-Referenced Component (Targets)

Overall classification: Peabody does not require assistance or intervention bc we are meeting or exceeding targets.

Progress toward improvement targets: 91% on scale of 0-100. Accountability percentile: 85% on scale of 0-99. Goal is to be at 99% in 5 years.

Chronic absenteeism: We are working a lot on it (see next session) and learning what works, including from discussion with Amigos principal (only Cambridge school to get a 4 out of 4).

(p. 7 why all of the “-”? It’s bc there need to be 20 or more students, combined in grades 3-5, in a group to get points)

Exceeding or meeting targets in ELA and Math

Science MCAS only in 5th grade but we went down/did not meet target; area to work on.

Chronic absenteeism – Jennifer Hedrington

Presentation

Individual conversations with families: talking about things like if you have a doctor's appt., you can still come to school after (or leave early)

Q: What are some root causes? Some socio-emotional issues (school avoidance); some families need extra support/are struggling; still some Covid;

Playground update – Maria Collins

It's not out to bid yet. When it does, 1 month to collect bids and 1 month to choose. Will not happen until new year. Also need to order equipment (supply chain issues mostly resolved). We are excited for our playground when it does happen!

*Hopefully we can make Yerxa safer (and/or one-way!) too. Request is in to city; not sure on status of this.

Fall Community Picnic: Thursday, October 12 at 5 PM

Volunteers are still needed to help monitor the bounce house.

There will be another community picnic in the spring.

Peabody vision survey for families – Michele Lippens

Survey will go out about which parts resonate most. Goal to have done by end of calendar year

Collaborative problem solving training for caregivers – Mr. S.

Last week, 8-week program with 10 caregivers participating. Huge success! Bringing it back this year; please be on the lookout for an email.

Subcommittees:

Peabody website. (Thanks to Ryan Challinor and David Gerstle for helping out with this.)

Peabody student handbook committee. (Thanks to Melissa Garcia for helping out with this!)

New business

Amy Sguegila is leading an effort to collect supplies for migrant families in Massachusetts.

The next School Council meeting is November 13, 2023 at 6:30 PM.