



Haggerty School

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Haggerty School Advisory Council (SAC)

Friday, November 15, 2024

7:45-8:45

Haggerty Library & Google Meet

Agenda:

- Introductions & Welcome
 - Roles - Note Taker
 - Check-in: What we're hearing - What's on Top? Peaches & Pits?
(anything that is not on the agenda and needs time or planning will be tabled for another mtg or a subcommittee)
- Minutes from October Mtg
- [CPS Assessment Info & Resources](#) for families
- Schedule Dates & Facilitators for Focus Groups!

Attendance:

Katie O'Connell, Caregiver

Chris Cullen, Haggerty SAC Caregiver Rep

Kevin McGonegal, Haggerty Staff SAC Rep

Nancy Campbell, Principal

Lissa Galluccio, Family Liaison

Hester Breen, Caregiver (*virtual*)

Kathleen Fitzgerald, Community SAC representative, (*virtual*)

Amel Eidelrous, Caregiver

Leah Kean, Haggerty SAC Caregiver Rep, (*virtual*)

Abenet Sime, Caregiver

Missy Paige, Caregiver

Aminata Cham, Haggerty SAC Caregiver rep, (*virtual*)

Aline Kassabian, Haggerty Staff SAC rep

Minutes by Lissa

Introductions and Welcome

Peaches and Pits:

- Bike Racks - replacement from the landing to the sidewalk has been delayed because the city owns the sidewalk and the City needs to grant permission. There are also always five bike racks in the staff parking lot and also bike racks by the Lawn Street door.
- *Question:* Has there been any discussion around the election? *Answer:* The older grades have been talking about it, especially if it comes up. Also in Restorative Justice circles. Also the social studies department has pushed out information to teachers to have this discussion. We also find staff members for students to check in with and if they need more we reach out to caregivers. Watching for other comments that are happening out in the world, to make sure they aren't coming into school. *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haight - book - might be a good resource to share with caregivers, especially around the issue of personal devices and development.
- *Peach* - scheduled a fifth grade trip to the marine science center next Spring run by MIT in Nahant. They have a touch pool and a tidal pool.
- *Peach* - the fifth grade big backyard field trip was awesome. (What is the Big Backyard?: It's a Lexington Program curriculum that is being piloted here by Kathleen Fitzgerald, where she takes students outside for an experience, as well as hands-on curriculum in the classroom that relate to those trips. For example, they have been interested in seeds. Last year they made ink from black walnuts, and used that ink to tie dye their t-shirts. The focus changes depending on interest. This year we are looking at solar activity. Research has shown that children around 11- or 12-years-olds are very receptive to this learning, and later they really begin focusing on their peers. Maybe we could talk about it more at another meeting, and get some caregiver volunteers, as we learn more about the new curriculum, and see the connections and push for more across the grades.
- *Peach:* Ms. Golding's class did a fresh pond walk and did an observation of the pond, taking notes and drawing pictures. It was a wonderful trip. Taking these nature walks can serve learning in a non-traditional way.
- *Peach:* Also caregiver/teacher conferences went really well.

CPS Assessment and Resources

- Linked in the [slideshow](#) is a resource guide from CPS that explains all the assessments. This slideshow could be helpful with the timing of conferences. The reports come to caregivers regarding these assessments - but this resource guide is more informative. The links in this slideshow offer more information about these assessments.
- How to access chromebooks with classlink is described in this slideshow. And how to access Boost reading, for example. Question: How many slides? Answer: It's a lot. Suggestion is to pair it down before it gets distributed. It does offer a bit more information about an MCAS report, and how to understand it.
- Access for middle school caregivers to information goes up dramatically because of the access to Aspen.

- Could there be a workshop for caregivers around understanding these types of assessments - like the ELA and Math workshops?
- We'd love some feedback on how to make this accessible. But this is a window into the acronyms that we use - or what the state assessment language is used.
- Question: What are the expectations of skill development on a screen vs. development on paper? In Kindergarten, many assessments are verbal. When do they shift to being assessments online? It is a big question. Boost is an online assessment program, but some are not. MClass - one or two are computer-based, but most of them are not. It really depends on the grade level and the assessment type.
- Kevin tries to push-in to every classroom to insert one technology-based program across the grades. Staff know students need experience with chromebooks before they are assessed on these tools.
- Maybe we can table it for a deeper dive to discuss this again and go more deeply. Just surfacing that it is worthwhile to consider more about how it's being folded into this discussion - and shared with caregivers so they understand how their students are being assessed (on paper or on a computer). There is an assessment called Forefront - and it gives suggestions for things you can work on with your child that are very concrete. For example, how can you be in conversation with your child when you move through the world and do/see math?
- Is there a master document with curriculum, and assessments, how they are done, what they are called, and what can we do at home to help this? Is there a scope and sequence for each grade? Maybe after this year, now with a new curriculum, maybe this type of suggestion could be operationalized.
- If folks can go to the caregiver workshops on ELA and Math - and help us think about what information is needed to understand. Math is coming on Nov. 20th at 7:45am. Illustrative Math is K-5. ELA K curriculum is Focus on K - and 1st - 5th is CKLA as the ELA curriculum.
- We have asked the District coordinators to come here to SAC to explain more curriculum, coaches are doing caregiver workshops, and hopefully you will also be invited into classrooms to see the work directly from your students.
- *Question:* request for chromebooks for students in any grade? Kevin - teachers can request for students if there is a clearly identified academic need at school, and it's been determined the student does not have access at home. Also a hot spot, if there is no wifi access. Also we want access for students to be leveled.
- Question about passwords: name and date of birth - worried about the security of this simple password? Does it get more difficult as they get older. In fifth grade, do a lesson around safe passwords, and they change their passwords to a more difficult password. 10-11 years old it's a good time. 5th graders cannot email each other using their CPSD emails. In elementary school they can only email their teachers.



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- Does anyone know if there is data on absenteeism for Cambridge? Yes - it is on the DESE website. And, CPS has a data site too, for every school.
- It is hard to keep the data accurate, but we do our best.
- Is there a [District attendance page](#) - that caregivers can see how any given school is doing - It all links to the SIP.
- Caregivers should call if they get an absent call, and your child was just tardy - please call and correct it.

Next meeting is Friday, December 20th