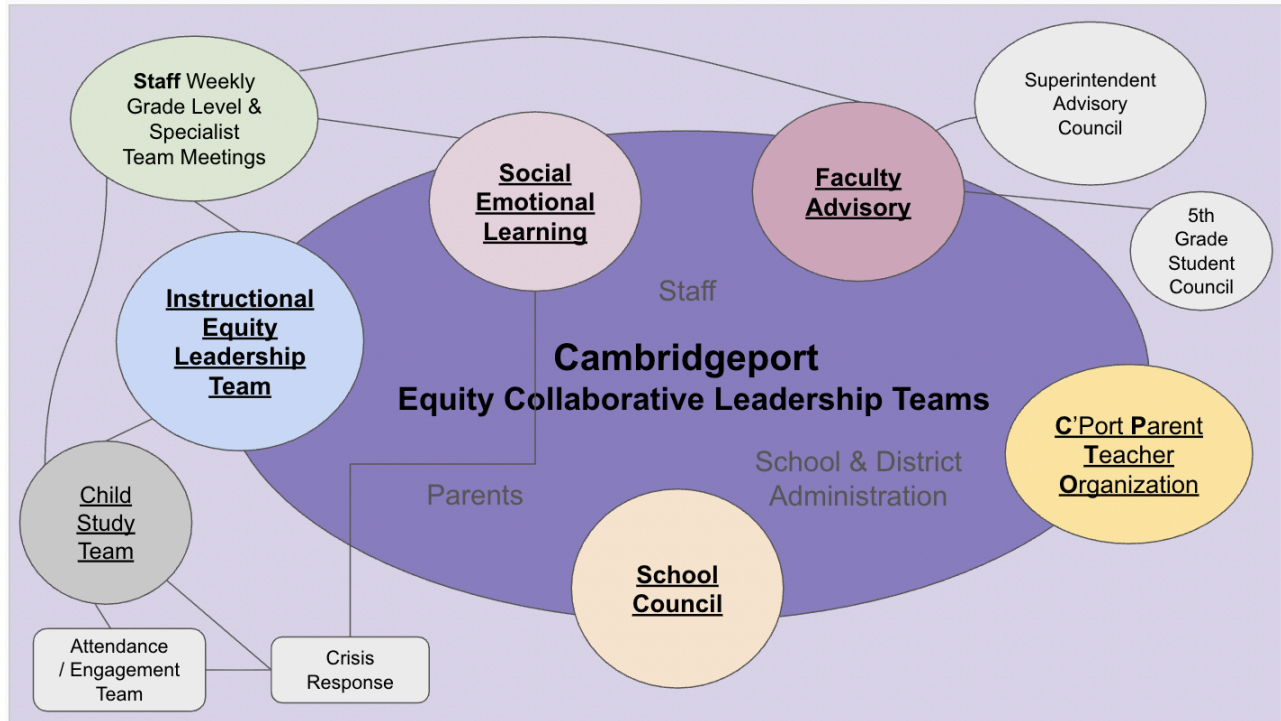


Cambridgeport School

School Site Council Meeting Agenda/Minutes

Date: September 25, 2025 Time: 4:45 pm - 6:45 pm



Thursday, September 25, 2025 4:45 pm - 6:45 pm

School Council Goals/Guided Question(s).	Guiding Question(s): <i>How can we continue to enhance our students' social-emotional and academic experiences?</i>
Members Present:	Staff: Genteen, Sarah Rosenberg, Parents: Chaeli Wallace, Kelly Sherman, Maha Alhadery, Family Liaison: Kristen Emack Community Partner: Guests/Observers:

Task Manager:	Name: Kristen
Note Keeper: Notecatcher BELOW	Name: Kelly

Time	Facilitator	Agenda Topic/Item
4:45 pm	Genteen	☒ Welcome and Introductions ☒ Review Norms ☒ Review of Agenda, including reviewing the Tools/Resources Section. ☐ Review and accept minutes from the last meeting ☐ Updates and Comments from School Council Members ☐ Our Work for This School Year ☐ Review Family Handbook ☐ Monitor our School Improvement Plan ☐ Review the upcoming school year budget ☐ Strengthening school and parent partnerships ☐ Other:
5:00 pm	Members	WELCOME ☒ CPS School Council Training Slides ☐ CPS School Council Handbook ☐ <i>Sorry, there will be no parent honorarium payment this year.</i>
5:45		School Council Self-Assessment ☐ Overall, our two <i>emerging</i> areas of focus are: inclusive communication with the community, and serving as a mechanism for anti-racist practices . ☐ <i>What would “excelling” in these two priority areas look like?</i> ☐ ☐ <i>What ideas do we have to improve in these two priority areas?</i> ☐
6:15 pm	Genteen	Review Cambridgeport School DRAFT Improvement Plan ☒ Cambridgeport SIP (School Improvement Plan) SY25/27 DESE plans to publicly release the 2025 school, district, and state-level MCAS and accountability results at approximately midday on Monday, September 29. Districts will receive access to their official embargoed MCAS results by noon on Wednesday, September 24. Districts will receive access to their official embargoed accountability results via the Security Portal by Friday, September 26. These results are strictly embargoed until the time of the public release on Monday, September 29.

		<u>C'Port SIP 2023-2025</u> School Improvement Plan Monitoring SMARTIE Goal - Key Areas of Need to Address: Our ELA MCAS 2023 data shows that 24% of African American/Black students are meeting or exceeding expectations. By 2025 We aim for at least 60% of African-American students to meet or exceed standards on the MCAS. June ELA MCAS 2024 was 14% Our Math MCAS 2023 data shows that 50% of African American/Black students are meeting or exceeding expectations. By June 2025 SMARTIE Goal We aim for at least 70% of African-American students to meet or exceed standards on the MCAS. June MCAS Math 2024 was 28% Absenteeism Based on the fact that our chronic absenteeism rate was 18% (47 out of 263 students) for the 23-24 school year, our goal is to decrease chronic absenteeism to 10% (26 out of 263 students) or lower. Additionally, by the end of the year, our goal is to have an average daily attendance rate of 95% or higher for the 24-25 school year. State Target of 8.8 for 2025 2023 was 11.4 2024 was 12.1 with a (10.1 Target)	
6:30 pm	Guests	Open Comment	
6:45 pm	THANK YOU SO MUCH	Meeting Dates C'Port School Site Council Thursdays 4:45 pm - 6:45 pm Link to Leadership Team Meetings Sept 25th, Oct 30th, Nov 20th, Jan 22nd, Feb 12th, Mar 26th, April 16th, May 21st,	

June 2, 2025

Note Taker

John

Kristen has distributed family representative candidate bios and the voting form through ParentSquare. We have four candidates, and caregivers are asked to select up to three. Window continues from today through 6/16 and will include paper ballots during portfolio shares.

Subcommittees:

- Teaching Climate update presents current state of conversation as “continuing recommendations”
 - Read through many outlined details.
 - Not a to-do list for anyone.
 - Recommendation areas include helping guide conversations and awareness around:
 - Strategic and increased use of adults in classrooms
 - Peer-to-peer classroom observations
 - Caregiver-staff engagement and aligned expectations
 - Building maintenance priorities
 - Validating negative feedback
 - Shared building meeting leadership
 - Best-practice sharing around district
 - Keeping caregivers involved is a major priority: informs caregivers, and expands range of solutions.
- Farm School (will return to this later in meeting)

School Improvement Plan

- Equity leadership team meetings are upcoming.
- Reviewed questions that the leadership teams will be reviewing.
- CPS provides objectives, and we decide which priorities to frame and elevate in order to meet those objectives. For example, these are some Cport priorities that help meet the CPS objective of delivering ambitious instruction:
 - Utilization of the UFLI program in kindergarten
 - Implementing Illustrative Mathematics and the Five Equity-Based Practices of Mathematics
 - Implementing WIN blocks
- A priority we haven’t had as much opportunity to emphasize is Academic Parent Teacher Teams. Our equity advocates Sarah G. and John have built engagement using a different approach. We have not used the approach of sharing a single specific classroom dataset that is characteristic of APTTs.
- Our open house format encouraging families to share strategies is an example of a priority meeting the CPS objective of building welcoming and supportive schools.
- Lending libraries for books and math resources have been strategic and successful, as has been our focus on lifting up students in lower-performing demographic categories.
- Our MCAS results last year came up very short of our SMARTIE goals. NB: the vast majority of “multiracial” students at Cport are Black as well as another race / other races.
- IELT recommendations/ideas include: try a different special education model, integrate field trips earlier in year.
- Classroom lists can be designed strategically to support safe-to-fail experiments for supporting groups of students.
- Discussed the IELT-proposed safe-to-fail model for next year, prioritizing special education teacher co-teaching across the two first grade classrooms.

- We have focused on what data suggest about what is working and what does the data suggest we need to do differently?
- Questions: what kinds of data are we using to make plans? How do we track and account for root causes? How do we understand the impacts of race, class, access to resources, self-selection, immigration status when we discuss test scores and other data? How do we account for supports in place at different schools?
- CKLA data in iReady at this point looks promising. Some students have made very marked progress.

Farm School subcommittee is still working on putting together docs to folks they'll reach out to.

Envisioning excellence in areas where we have self-assessed as emerging (these two areas overlap)

- What would excelling look like for inclusive communication? Some ideas:
 - Emails a day or two after SEC meetings sharing bullet points, reminding people to reach out with any questions; keep the communication going, flowing out to the community, reminding people they can come to Council and participate.
 - Inviting people to SEC. Personally inviting people from the community to come talk for 5–10 minutes. Each meeting has a guest speaker. People who grew up in the neighborhood who can talk about some of the topics we've talked about: school choice, racial data, the city changing.
 - District guest speakers from different departments in CPS.
 - Bill (crossing guard) amazing in terms of understanding how the area used to be, the history of the school.
 - Anti-racist practice is hard to quantify. Microaggressions. Notably classist. How teachers have exclusive times/availabilities. What schedules for meetings work? Rotating times? Maybe if SEC meetings are evening, subcommittee meetings in the morning?
 - Subcommittees can improve inclusive communication. How do we make people feel they are included, and fully empowered to participate?
 - Can we elect caregivers to other leadership teams?
 - Ask community what inclusive communication would look like.
 - What would excelling look like for our Council as an anti-racist mechanism? Need to fully discuss vision and implementation in September, can suggest this as a priority for incoming members. Some ideas:
 - Share information through CPS affinity groups
 - [Cambridge Families of Color Coalition](#)
 - [Cambridge Families of Asian Descent](#)
 - Language, ethnicity, country/culture of origin, other affinity groups
 - PD for SEC, help with microaggressions within SEC. How do we address in a way that helps our self-reflection, and our effectiveness as an organization? Can build into SEC member training. Maybe eventually be lead-learners, but not ready at this time spoken to students historically. The fluidity of power, whose ideas are transferring over even in the course of this meeting. Cambridge never wants to look at class. Making people welcome across classes can be a component of measuring inclusive communication.
 - Voting on specific proposals once or twice a year, along the lines of Participatory Budgeting.
- How do we get to excelling in an efficient way, what should we emphasize in our implementations?
 - Bring forward the work of different leadership teams
 - Rotating schedule of different leadership teams
 - Need to find in.

September 2025 Notes: (Official Minutes)	
Note Taker	Kelly Sherman
Introductions. We have open seats: • 2 staff seats (unless Justin Craven participates, then only one). • 1 caregiver seat • 1 community seat Ideally we get 1 more staff to have the same number of caregivers and staff. If we get 2 new staff then we should ideally get another caregiver. Reviewed norms. Asked for an Arabic translator to support Maha's full participation. Kristen will take the lead. • Interest in learning about CPS policy for recording. Reviewed <i>CPS School Council Training Slides</i>. Reviewed <i>CPS School Council Handbook</i>. • Reviewed section: <i>Accessibility of School Council Representatives</i> • Mention of sub committees. Existing Sub-Committee: <i>Farm School Field Trip Fundraising</i>. • Kendall Square Business Association meeting tomorrow with PTO President and Kristen. Reviewed School Council Self-Assessment Template. • Read aloud notes from the two highlighted opportunity areas. • Discussed assorted questions and that arose related to notes, process, sources, priorities, new ideas.	
Next Steps • Secure an Arabic translator for Maha. (Kristen) • Ask staff about interest in participating in SEC. There are two open seats. (Kristen) • Ask about CPS policy on recording for future reference/review by members. (Genteen) • Invite community members to join and fill one empty seat (ALL) • Set up individual CPS gmail account for easy access to CPS documents that get shared in our work as School Council reps. (caregivers without CPS email addresses) • Look into offering stipend to stakeholder representatives as needed from the School Improvement Plan. (Genteen) • Connect Chaeli with Ginger from CPTO related to Takeda outreach. (Kristen)	