

## **SAC Report to RSB – June 16, 2016**

Greetings from the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School for Government and International Studies (MLWGS) Advisory Council, the SAC. I am Leslie Hausser, Dr. Leslie Anne Taylor Hausser is my full legal name. I am a Chesterfield parent of a current junior and a recent graduate of MLWGS. I chaired the SAC this year. We had both the Chair and Vice-Chair step down for personal reasons and had to then replace several positions. We have been quite productive nonetheless.

We are attempting to gage what we do and identify our focus opportunities using the By-Laws which were amended September 2015. I will remind you of our mission statement and the composition and representative memberships of the SAC as is in the By-Laws.

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School Advisory Council (SAC) is to serve in an advisory capacity to enhance the quality of education, to promote comprehensive educational opportunities, to support the effective components of the existing programs, and to ensure that the MLWGS mission is achieved.

### **Membership**

#### **Section 1. Composition**

Membership of the School Advisory Council may consist of parents, staff and students of MLWGS, corporate and community members, higher education representatives, school administrators, and gifted program specialists. Membership should reflect the diversity of the community in terms of school district size and underrepresented minority groups. Membership shall be presented annually to the Regional Board.

#### **Section 2. Representative Memberships**

Members of SAC should be drawn from a broad range of interested persons who represent as many aspects of the total community as

possible. The maximum number of representatives allocated for selection by each MLWGS constituency is

PTSA 6 members

STAFF 4 members

SCA 4 members

Administrative Team 1 member

Planning Committee 1 member

Director (Appointees) 3 members

Members unable to attend are asked to participate by electronic communication. Members attending by electronic communication shall be deemed present, eligible to vote, and reflected in the minutes.

By-Laws Amended September 2015 and are also attached to this report.

### **Committee Work:**

The SAC is comprised of two different committees: Standing Committees and Special Committees.

The membership of all standing committees shall be restricted to those persons who are members of SAC unless otherwise provided by vote of SAC. A standing committee may adopt rules for its government if not inconsistent with the by-laws or rules adopted by SAC. A vacancy in the membership of the committee may be filled by an appointment made in the same manner as the original appointment. Chairpersons of standing committees shall present proposed plans to SAC, and no work shall be undertaken without the approval of SAC.

- Calendar – Phil Tharp, Chair
- Membership – Leslie Hausser, Chair
- Nominating – Jewel Caven, Chair

These committee functions are fairly self-explanatory.

Special committee members need not be members of SAC unless SAC specifically requires it. All other respects, the special committees will

function in the same manner and are subject to the same restrictions as standing committees.

- **Global Outreach** – Kristi McCullough, Chair
- **Technology** – Eric Lowell, Chair
- **Communications** – Beth Bortz/Peggy Feldmann, Co-Chairs
- **Marketing** – Anthony Taylor, Chair
- **Grading Scale** – Maureen Moslow-Benway, Chair

Global Outreach – This special committee has an international focus. Its mission is to support the efforts of the faculty and the school to provide opportunities that expand our cultural competency and leadership skills through global engagement.

Technology – This special committee worked with Jeff Hall on his Technology Infrastructure Team initiative aligning with some of the strategic focuses in the 5 year plan.

Communications – Aligning with the directives of the strategic plan, this committee’s purpose was to investigate, support and advise the school on the Foundation, PTSA and Booster Group collaboration on an enhancement plan to support the school.

Marketing – Worked with Todd Raviotta on development of a marketing video for use in recruiting, on the MLWGS.com site, and to provide an updated video for the school.

Grading Scale – Goal 3 of the Strategic Plan includes the following initiative: Study the grading scale and grade weighting of all MLWGS courses as it pertains to incentivizing students and develop a recommendation to the planning committee, superintendents, and RSB. The grading scale made a recommendation to the SAC which was accepted. Dr. McGee plans to present and discuss at a later RSB meeting.

In addition, as Chair it was identified early into the school year that with so many new SAC members and officers, we needed to have a feel or pulse for what was going on in the school. The Chair asked

that there be reports from the participating members of the committee in 2016. Each meeting there is a Report by the Director and Report by the Chair. The chair also asked for "State of the Students", "State of the Faculty/Staff", and "State of the Parents" as well as intermittent reports by Raye Rector from the planning committee. Follow up to each of these reports was discussed various topics and considerations being addressed in standing and special committees as is appropriate.

Additionally, the Chair asked SAC member Anthony Taylor, to carefully review each of the committee focus with its alignment to the SAC By-Laws. The Chair, Leslie Hausser, and Vice-Chair, Laura Razzolini, began then aligning the SAC By-Laws with the 5-Year Strategic Plan along with several of the committees. This will continue over the summer and prior to the SAC retreat planned to kick off the 2016-2017 school year. Notably, one of the topics of interest for the SAC is research and guidance for a climate survey that meets the needs of the unique community of students, faculty, staff, parents and administration at MLWGS. This aligns with the five year strategic plan.

Jeff McGee and Leslie Hausser, the Director of MLWGS and the Chair of the SAC, will be meeting over the summer to discuss specific areas of advisory opportunity and continued work for the various committees.

The SAC chair recognized senior Virginia Chambers (who will attend UVA in the fall) and senior Ethan Cruikshank (who will attend Stanford in the fall) along with Faculty Representatives Paige Hawkins who is rolling of the SAC this year and Hana Reed who resigned her position. Replacements and new SAC members were presented to the RSB at the May meeting. The By-Laws require from 10-19 SAC members. The SAC for 2016-2017 will have 19 members.

The chair asked for any questions or input from the RSB to please come directly to her at any time.