

MLWGS School Advisory Council (SAC)
Tuesday, October, 9, 2018
7:30-8:30am

Meeting Room 153
1st Floor by Blue Stone Lobby

SAC Executive Board: Chair – Cynthia Kostelecky, Vice-Chair – Dan Brown, Secretary – John Walter, Historian – Barrie Bowers

Members: Dave Barnes, Wendy DeGroat, Prasad Edlapalli, Dan Giorgis, Sammy Guinn, Ann Ifekwunigwe, Melissa Kates, Bryce Lyle, Jennifer McCluskey, Miles Nardi, Julia Ochsenshirt (A), Jill Potts, Narmeen Rashid, Denise Rasmussen, Max Smith

Time	Topic	Facilitator	Notes
5 min	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call to Order 2. Introductions 3. Agenda - Discussion and Approval of 10/8/18 meeting agenda 4. Minutes - Review and Acceptance of 6/12/18 meeting minutes 	Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:33 Agenda and Minutes approved. Introductions
45 min	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. Dr. Lowerre discussion with SAC 	Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7:35 Dr. Lowerre discussed the possibility of the SAC working on a school identity project. Here is a summary of his presentation: I began as director July, 2017. I had the 5 year Strategic Plan to work with, but not much else to find out what the school is about. During middle school visits in October, I was struck by a parent question: “Is my kid better off staying at Varina and being the valedictorian or coming to Maggie Walker?” What he wanted to know from a college standpoint, which is worth more, valedictorian at county high school or graduating from Maggie Walker? Question cannot be answered because depends on college and what family wants. In 1991, we were the only game in town. 1995, specialty centers open in Henrico and Chesterfield. More and more have opened throughout region. Students can now graduate high school with Associate Degrees from Community college. Some smaller counties still don’t have these

		<p>options, but the major counties do. What makes us different? Look to mission and vision statement. In both, the word “gifted” is used. SAT and AP average still above entire region. How do we know if we are doing well? A parent saw UVA acceptance rate as a measure of how well we are doing. What about our admissions process – Does it identify gifted students or students who do well on tests? Next strategic plan work begins October, 2019. Prior to that process it is important to figure out what we are and who we are. Should we be a more inclusive gifted program or just take the best testers? Should we be concerned about who is not applying, concerned about who turns us down? 12 districts have a stake -- so this has to be a collaborative effort. SAC can be a good starting point.</p> <p>Discussion with Dr. Lowerre followed: What are the questions we need to ask?</p> <p>Focus groups, surveys, discussions, town halls. Don’t want a strategic plan. Maybe groundwork for strategic plan. End product – a definition of the role of Maggie Walker in the region.</p> <p>Other thoughts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What are we now? 2) What are the negatives? 3) Where do we want to go? Who do we want to be? 4) Risk vs no risk (original students were risk takers, now appears want guarantee of no risk) 5) Relevance – why choose MLWGS if get in to bunch of specialty schools. 6) Is the rigor worth it? 7) Are extracurriculars and participation in sports major pluses? <p>Cautions – We do not have an outcome in mind. Want to find out what those outcomes should be. Don’t want the impression that a secret committee is coming up with a plan.</p> <p>Question to Dr. Lowerre: Is the Board engaged or disengaged? Core group of board members and superintendents that is engaged.</p>
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10 min	<p>New Business</p> <p>6. Committees</p> <p>7. Open Forum for additional topics</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:20 Discussion of committee assignments and committee projects.
5 min	8. Announcements & Closure of Meeting	Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8:27
<p>REMINDERS: RSB Meeting 10/18/18, 9:00-10:00 am; SAC Meetings – Nov. 13, Dec. 11, Jan. 8, Feb. 12, Mar. 12, Apr. 9, May 14, June 11, all 7:30-8:30 am</p>			