

**Palmer SAC Minutes**  
**March 8, 2018 7 – 8:00 am**  
**in the Palmer Community Room**

Parent Members		School Members		Community & Student Members	
Kathy Solomon (chair)	x	Lara Disney	x	Robin Hammitt	x
Sara Kennedy (secretary)	x	Dan Geiser	x	Ashanti Cameron	x
Deirdre Aden-Smith	x	Kandy Claybaugh	x	Michelle Elstun	
Carl Schueler (DAC)	x	Michael Chamberlain	x		
Tom Remick					

1. The meeting was called to order at 7 a.m.

2. Agenda approved with reordering.

3. 1:1 Technology Initiative. The district is asking for feedback about an initiative to put laptops or tablets in the hands of each student and teacher for instructional purposes. What is our readiness for this? Our surrounding districts and Doherty) have begun this initiative. This is a good way to market what we do at D11 and ultimately at Palmer High School. Discussed for at least an hour at the Budget Subcommittee. It will cost about a million dollars per year with teachers receiving laptops and tablets first. Some teachers were concerned about the amount of time for orientation/instruction. Equipment would begin with teachers, and add incoming freshmen, perhaps adding more than one class year at a time. Insurance could be purchased to keep equipment in good shape. At the end of four years, any battery in a laptop or tablet has probably run its course; could give devices to students at graduation. Why begin at high school level first? Students would use devices at home so it is an independent ownership issue. (FYI All students and teachers at Adams have a computer.) This may reduce cell phone use; it is harder to hide larger screens. This would be a big change for the school. Parents at SAC gave approval but would like to see instructional emphasis continued on interaction, public speaking, and group work. To be discussed at the next DAC meeting.

4. School Safety: Internal changes to security, lockdowns, drills, etc.

a. Potential Walk Out: Dr. Gleditch sent a letter about student leaders planning to walk out on March 14 at 10 am to circle the school in a sign of solidarity with Parkland High School. We will provide supervision for the activity. Staff can choose to participate as long as there is coverage with other teachers if all students in a given class period do not choose to walk out. We have wristbands titled "Terrors Together" with the date, to introduce our slogan for PBIS. A picture may be taken of the students' demonstration with the school district's drone.

b. Security: Doherty had some significant events earlier this year. They have started a system with ID cards with bar code scanners. They are using this for accountability and safety purposes. If we used something like this, we'd be able to see in Q who is on campus. If the ID is lost, students could potentially use a cell phone. Students not enrolled will show an error message. Alarms could be placed on external doors at a cost of about \$50-60 each. Students and staff do use these as exits, but these doors also give access to others to breach campus. We could change our opening of doors to 6:45 a.m. when security could be here to supervise. (IDs are checked currently at 7 a.m.)

c. Lockdown notice: During a lockdown, all external doors are locked and manned. Students and staff can move as normal within a building but can't move to another building. Most lockdowns have nothing to do with Palmer; they have to do with police activity in the area that could involve violence. CSPD directs these lockdowns. Substitute teachers get information about drills and emergencies, though a sub this past Monday was unaware of procedures in the sub file. Each department with the possibility of Art has a person who has a planning period for each class period and is available to assist other teachers with bathroom breaks, questions, etc.

It is very important for teachers to have the Loop app on. Messages sent out have been helpful and useful. Perhaps some additional messages when there is no emergency, i.e. how to report, joining Loop, etc. would also be helpful. Ashanti reported that students were not stressed; this is something that happens routinely. This generation has grown up with lockdowns.

We will be using uniform terminology for lockdowns, shelter in place, etc. next school year. We have flashing strobes during emergency as a visual alert to staff and students as well (per federal regulations.) Sonitrall works well for some doors with visual access. We don't want to open a door to a knock without being able to see who it is.

How do we address students who might be at risk for violence against others? We have a threat assessment for students. If a student posts a picture on social media suggesting violence, we go through a protocol to assess the threat. On Monday, we had seven police officers and district security here. We do suicide assessments and encourage students to use Safe2Tell. A freshman student contacted a news station to encourage a follow up story about Safe2Tell as an important source of information. Our SRO also gets the Safe2Tell notices and there is a safety net with CSPD to make sure we quickly get these reports also. Response times have been great (a benefit to being downtown).

## 5. Principal's Report

- Good News: Working hard on the Culture and Climate committee, getting good staff and student input.
- Upcoming Events: CMAS will occur after spring break. PSAT 9 and 10 will be April 10 and 11. (All other students will be excused.) Looking for parent support for both student attendance and test effort.
- Other Updates: ACT is still offered; students work through Counseling for this test and it occurs on a Saturday.

6. Enrollment: Capacity, Utilization, and Choice Permits Accepted: We had 185 submitted permits. We have heard from 93 confirming as of yesterday and our registrar is working with the middle schools who track students to Palmer. Our permit registration night is next Thursday, March 15. We are well under capacity estimated as 1900. We were at 1559 on March 7, a reduction from the fall. We get permits through August each year, including from outside the district. There is a discussion about some kind of district incentive to attract more out of district permits.

## 7. District Accountability Committee (DAC) report by Carl Schueler.

- Next regular DAC meeting: 03/15/2018.
- The SAC training will have choices among topics for 4/5 ([see flyer.](#)) RtI (Response to Intervention) and Multi-tiered System of Support (MTSS) will be one topic.

8. Minutes from the February SAC meeting were approved with edits for SAT dates.

9. Student Council Report by Ashanti Cameron

We are running cabinet elections. Our March Spring Fling will be March 23 from 6-9 p.m. Clubs can raise money at this event as they did for Halloween. Mr. Terror in February had seven different acts and it was fun.

10. Alumni Report: Robin Hammitt

We have Founders Day on March 10 and the swearing in ceremony from our election.

We have had three funding requests. We awarded the Chamber Singers "A Broadway Experience" allowing them to attend a Broadway performance while traveling for their Carnegie Hall concert. There is a video on our Facebook page about the Carnegie trip and an interview with Jeff Peckham. We gave an additional amount of money for financially challenged students. We also funded the speech and debate crew, which is growing. We tabled the request for funding related to the marquee. We like to benefit the students more directly and this effort, though welcome, didn't quite meet the criteria.

Upcoming SAC Dates: 4/12, 5/10.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m. The next Palmer SAC Meeting is scheduled for April 12.