

TAGAC November 14, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Attending (members' names bolded): Linda Smith [PPS Director of TAG/IB], Stephanie Cameron [PPS Sr Dir of Communications and Public Engagement], Brian Lawler, Jonathan Dubay, **Jessica Colby, Megan Robertson, Scholle Sawyer-McFarland, Natalie Hval, Eric Houghton**, with a visit from Scott Bailey [PPS Board Member]

I. Call to Order & Preliminaries

- A. Introductions
- B. Call for additional agenda items
- C. Announcements

II. Old Business and Unfinished Action Items (AI)

A. **Visioning Process** (Stephanie C)

Visioning is a tool Superintendent Guerrero brought from his experience at SFUSD. The point is not simply to develop a vision statement but also a graduate profile for what today's Kinder student will encompass as a graduate. This will then guide strategy and approach. The process began with a core team of central staff (see [landing page](https://www.pps.net/Page/12780) on PPS website for team members <https://www.pps.net/Page/12780>). Currently developing guiding coalition of ~90 community members. The district is experiencing residual angst over prior attempts (leadership must ensure all voices are heard, not the familiar ones). PPS wants to include a member of TAGAC in the 3-meeting sessions that guiding coalition will conduct (December, February, TBD). Also will host 4 community sessions, set up like a college fair with different community groups hosting sessions to attract voices that are not usual heard; inviting TAGAC to be one of those groups. Session feedback goes back to guiding coalition. Final decision-makers will be the PPS board, heavily supportive. David Roy is a consultant hired to assist with communications & engagement (still understaffed on permanent FTE).

Q: How does 2E fit in to that guiding coalition?

A: Stephanie will email us set of questions used to develop guiding coalition.

Q: Who will be doing boundary review? Someone else?

A: David is just communications. The visioning work is being handled by Prospect Studios (?). Boundary review (will be called Program Evaluation & Enrollment) is in the process of RFP development.

Q: Will [Soft Neighborhood Model](#) be considered?

A: What is that? [sidebar explanation] <http://www.softneighborhoodmodel.org/>

Comment: Hundreds of community hours have already been invested. Wonderful that J Trombley will bring that together and carry the work forward. Concerned that people may be reticent to invest even more time.
Staff: Agreed, but how do we know that the output of those previous efforts is still valid? Working on how to incorporate and validate those conclusions efficiently.

Comment: Suggest that leadership present the themes from previous efforts as part of our next step, rather than simply a revalidation. Consultants should watch the videos of those meetings and work sessions so they can get up to date without requiring a bunch of community time again. The issues aren't really that unique.

Q: In parallel to visioning and as a step towards transparency, what problems need to be fixed right now?

What can be put in place to improve the present, with a focus on feeding interim efforts into the long-term?

A: Once it's all described, then the strategic plan lays out how to get there and when pieces are rolled out. Also need to be sure all groups of students experience benefit.

Comment: There are lots of kids are falling through the cracks every year. Suggest leadership reach out to families with students who have recently left neighborhood school or PPS altogether.

Comment: Please identify the people/issues that can't be lost over the next decade.

Participation in guiding coalition:

Time commitment is 5-8 days over 6 months; three 1 ½ day weekend sessions plus a 'learning journey'.

B. TAG dept update (Linda S).

Since last TAGAC mtg, department has completed 2nd grade screener and is now notifying those families and also others qualified via SBAC. Now getting returned mail, with plans to deliver them to the schools

physically. TAG staff says the returns are much less than previously.

SBAC: Sent out 968 ELA, 720 Math at 85%ile and up for further testing (IOWA is available**). Scores at 95%ile and up require nothing but a parent signature for identification.

2nd grade screener: 1183 letters have been sent to scores at 75%ile and higher (score not included because such a limited screener). Tested 2nd grade students at Pioneer as well (two trips).

The Office of Teaching & Learning retreat was yesterday; the TAG director is collaborating with the ELL asst director to work on better identification of ELL students - focusing on outreach to parents, and will focus on targeted schools with concentration of ELL students where staff is available to work on outreach.

Professional development: Department is training TAG facilitators at schools, and starting PD with principals. "What is rate and level?" What does it mean to meet rate and level? Make-up training 11/15.

January 31st deadline to deliver training. Linda met with Angela Allen re: content and the district TAG plan.

Q: How will we determine that the training made an impact? Where's the data?

A: Good question. A fair amount of reliance on anecdotal feedback (less calls re: "no TAG services"). Doing walkthroughs and seeing differentiation in the classroom. We should see growth documented in MAP testing. Training is not a one-time deal - 45 minutes of rate & level instruction doesn't do it. The next step is developing follow-up PD for remainder of year and August training. There is an acknowledgement that we've neglected TAG for many years; leadership is listening and filling TAG department requests. The biggest challenges are increasing identifications in underserved populations and delivering rate and level.

Q: There was a discussion of legislative agenda at this [past board meeting](#) (link to video) - SpEd, dyslexia, yes, but also must include TAG education. Was TAG testing ever added to the Response to Intervention SpEd process? Not sure who is still in SpEd that we spoke to earlier about this.

A: Tell me more. [sidebar historical discussion about the importance of the intersection between TAG and causes for referral to SpEd] Linda is making connections in SpEd department and will follow up on this.

Communication: OMSI evening information was distributed more than 4 times directly to schools, color flyers, etc. The TAG department doesn't have attendance numbers or school representation. 325 were able to go through the King Tut exhibit because of timed entry. For future communication, IT is providing Linda access to the listserv of TAG families.

Q: Can individuals self-subscribe to the TAG email list? (footnote at bottom like most newsletters) TAGAC has received information that suggests only one address was added per TAG family (so multi-household families are not getting the information consistently).

A: Linda says this sounds great and doesn't see a reason not to do so.

Q: TAG fund usage - what is the accountability for the funds being spent on TAG students? Each school gets \$1100 (*edit: twice as much as it used to be!*). Every point of contact is so important because there are so few.

TAG parent survey/conferences alignment - Linda observes that, functionally, it doesn't make a lot of sense for families to be giving TAG feedback at this time, in this way.

TAG testing - department is revisiting resources and timing. Optimally would use spring SBAC and spring MAP and also administer Naglieri in October, ID students, then services would start in January.

ACCESS workgroup re: admissions. Meeting again on 11/28. Lots of focus on ownership of different aspects of process. Looping back with families that have chosen not to enroll this year and future years.

•Linda will confirm that the Mazama room is scheduled out for TAGAC meetings for the rest of the year.

III. Committee Sessions - TABLED

IV. New Business - see above

V. Visitor questions

Q: Wilson site plan is very out-of-date, I brought it up at site council and mildly rebuffed. Can you explain?

A: Linda: building plans should be updated by January; in progress, generally revised by principal.

Q: Will existence of new plan be communicated to families?

A: Linda will likely be communicating this. Hopefully school facilitators as well.