

# SSAC Meeting

Minutes for October 26th, 2023

<b>Roll Call:</b> Audubon Bay View Golda Meir Green Tree Preparatory Hamilton MacDowell Montessori Marshall Milwaukee School of Languages Obama Pulaski Reagan Preparatory Rufus King International South Division Vincent	<b>Absent:</b> Bradley Technology and Trade James Madison Academic Campus Milwaukee High School of the Arts North Division Riverside University Washington Wisconsin Conservatory of Lifelong Learning - WCLL
---	---

- Students began arriving via MPS transportation plan around 4:20pm
- As the students arrive at Central Service, they are escorted up to rooms 206/208 to network with each other and have dinner.
- At 4:30pm Mr. Valdés starts the meeting and explains the nomination process for the SSAC Officers.

## **Paulette Chambers – Chief of Staff - Milwaukee Public Schools – 4:50PM**

- Met and talked to the students, she substituted for Dr. Posley for this meeting.
- Mrs. Chambers asked the students about their screen time on their mobile devices.
  - Stated that the overuse of social media can be unhealthy for the students' sleep schedules.
- She challenged the students to sleep a night or two without their phones being close to them.
- Mrs. Chambers checked in with the students to see how school is going for them so far.
- **Students expressed positive feelings for their schools:**
  - **Once a semester Reagan High School has a day where the students disconnect from their phones and do fun activities**
  - **Milwaukee School of Languages has morning announcements that 'shout out' various achievements students have accomplished**
  - **Bay View High School has programs that help advance cultural awareness for the students.**
  - **The BSU (Black Student Union) at Hamilton High School had an event for men to talk about issues aren't general topics of discussion**

## **Christy Stone – Director Of Strategic Partnerships and Customer Service**

- Introduced by Paul Maynard - Audubon School of Technology and Communication.

- Ms. Stone explains what the department does and what role the director plays.
- The department engages with families to improve their involvement in school events and various partnerships.

**Daniel E. Parker - Assistant Director of Special Education, Division of Learning Support - Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and Assistant, Stacy Broach**

- Johnathan Dye, Milwaukee School of Languages introduces next guest
- DPI is a state agency that helps with advancing public education and libraries in Wisconsin
- Regulates some funding for schools, and various federal taxes go into school funding.
- DPI has a special plan that they want to use to have an additional source of funding for schools
- Mr. Parker and Ms. Broach held a discussion with students asking several questions about school climate
  - The students was given two handouts - one that listed the questions and the other was a survey
  - When surveys are completed, a report will be shared with the Wisconsin State Superintendent and her team. Once evaluated, a report will be sent to the MPS district
  - Due to time constraints and a robust discussion, students responded to only two of the three questions
- **Question #1 - “Do you feel valued or sense of belonging in the classroom for School? If yes, what makes you feel valued or have a sense of belonging in the classroom or school? If no, what would have made you feel valued or have a sense of belonging in the classroom or school?”**
  - Student responses were mixed- both positive and negative feelings.
    - Students felt that the staff at their schools didn’t “care” if they were absent from school.
    - Students felt that some administrators have “favorites” and treat others differently
    - Students expressed feelings for a lack of resources regarding mental health
    - Students expressed that the staff, faculty and school leaders have a connection with the students
    - Students felt that they “belonged” and that there was a family atmosphere at their school
    - Students felt that they were alienated at their school by staff, students and school leaders
- **Question #2 - “What do you need as a learner to ensure you are successful in reading, mathematics, and graduate prepared for finding a career, education after high school, and living independently in your community?”**
  - The students expressed their feelings about how their schools prepare them for life after high school.

- Some schools use an application called Zello to help them prepare for the ACT testing
- There were mixed feelings about Zello because it helped some students, but others felt that it was distracting
- Audubon High School students felt that their school didn't prepare them early enough for completing college applications.
- Hamilton High School has a group of counselors and staff that help the students for college preparation.
- There were some frustrations expressed from Bay View High School students because their school offers them classes that "don't fit into their future career plans."
- Some students feel that their school is setting them up for failure rather than helping them.
- Some schools offer College prep courses all four years

### **SSAC Officers Nomination Speeches - 6:10pm**

- Johnathan Dye - President
  - Paul Maynard - President
  - Manuel Ishag - President
  - Mia Moore - President (unavailable)
  - Jeffery Payne - Vice
  - Mohdsyamir Shamsuddin - Vice
  - De'Jon Addison - Vice
  - Campbell Chigbu - Vice
  - Valencia Jones - Vice (unavailable)
- Speeches were recorded for the students that were not in attendance. The speeches were shared in the SSAC Google Classroom for all students to view and vote.

### **Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM**

**Students were escorted to the busses in the parking lot of Central Services building**

### **Next Meeting**

**Nov 16, 2023- Central Office - 4:30-6:30 PM**

*Submitted by Nhya Everette  
Edited By David Valdés - Oct 31, 2023*