



## MARSTELLER ADVISORY COUNCIL (MAC) MINUTES

**Date:** January 15, 2026

**Call to order:** 5:04 p.m.

**Attendees:** Lisa Warner, LeeAnn Buchheit, Jessica Finch, Kristen Hugues, Karla Martinez, Lesley Wark, Jill Waskow, Kerry Cosover, Cecilia Kuglitsch, Frances Musasa, Rhea Nesbitt, Eden Davis (student), Sarah Yoho (student). Ms. Smith

### MEETING MINUTES

#### Welcome and Introductions

#### Student Time:

##### iPad Usage Concerns

- A recurring issue continues with students using iPads to play games during instructional time. This behavior is occurring daily and is impacting students' ability to follow directions and remain engaged in learning.
- PWCS has confirmed that, at the division level, they are currently unable to expand restrictions or block additional gaming apps beyond what is already in place.
- The school will continue advocating for stronger device-management options to better support instructional use.

##### Next Steps

- Staff will reinforce expectations by reminding students that iPads are learning tools and should only be used for academic purposes.
- Students will be encouraged to support one another by reminding peers of appropriate iPad use.
- Teachers will consistently apply BARKS expectations to address misuse and redirect students as needed.

#### Administrator's Time

##### Scheduling Updates

- 8th Grade: Students will review their Student Vision Profiles in late January. Following that, they will meet with high school counselors to begin creating their high school course schedules.
- 6th & 7th Grade: Students will select next year's music electives. The selection process will be completed online so families can view student choices.
- Rising 6th Graders: Marsteller counselors will visit elementary schools to meet with incoming students and support their transition.
- Specialty Program: The Math and Science Specialty Program has received approximately 300 applications from students interested in attending Marsteller Middle School.

##### Testing Updates

- Mid-year exams are currently underway. Some students experienced delays due to difficulties logging into the testing platform.
- iPad updates are essential for testing and daily classroom use. Families are encouraged to ensure iPads are fully charged so updates can install properly, as low battery levels prevent updates from running.

##### Grading Updates

- The School Board has approved updates to grading procedures; however, Marsteller will not implement any changes until the end of the second semester.

- The main upcoming change involves late work:
  - Full credit will be allowed up to 5 days after the due date.
  - After the 5th day, late work may still be submitted, but 10 points will be deducted per day, up to day 10.
  - After 10 days, the assignment will result in a zero, but students may still submit it for feedback only, not for a grade.
- The current policy remains in place for now: students may submit late work until the end of the marking period.
- Suggestions, opinions, ideas were shared between parents, staff and administrators during the meeting.

### **SACI Update**

Meeting Date: January 8

Topics Covered: Office of the Ombuds, Code of Behavior Updates, MTSS Behavior Plans

#### **Office of the Ombuds**

- The Office of the Ombuds is an independent body that reports directly to the School Board.
- Their role is neutral and focused on supporting all parties—students, staff, and schools—when navigating conflicts, the discipline process, and special education procedures.
- They monitor and identify systemwide trends and bring concerns and patterns to the attention of the School Board.

#### **Code of Behavior Updates**

- Now operating under the new name *Student Hearings Department*.
- The department presented updates on the implementation of the Code of Behavior and highlighted that the document is now available in multiple languages.
- They emphasized the importance of parents discussing the Code of Behavior with their children to ensure understanding and awareness.
- A workshop was conducted to help participants learn how to identify and apply the appropriate Code of Behavior guidelines based on specific incidents to better understand decision-making processes.

#### **MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Supports)**

- The number of Behavior Resource Specialists has increased from 13 to 28 across the division.
- The meeting included a discussion of the role of these specialists and how they support student behavior, intervention planning, and staff implementation within the MTSS framework.

#### **Marsteller PTO's Time**

- An incident occurred during the last PTO virtual meeting in which an unknown individual appeared on screen inappropriately.
- In response, privacy and security settings were immediately adjusted to prevent future disruptions.
- These changes unintentionally prevented the PTO from seeing who was joining the meeting; an apology was issued for the confusion this caused.
- The only remaining discussion item was finalizing the date for the 8th Grade Dance.

**Meeting Adjourned: 6:06pm**

**Next Meeting:** February 19, 2026, via Zoom