

## Marshall Advisory Council Meeting

Monday October 6, 2025, 4:15pm

- Meeting started at 4:21pm
- No SACI update. First SACI meeting will be Thursday 10/9.
- Mrs. Jardin, school councilor did a presentation about the Six Nest One Soar Program.
  - What is house system?
    - The six houses are made up of students and staff from PreK - 5th Grade. Students will remain in the house for their entirety of time at Marshall ES. Each house is named after a different species of Eagle. They are color coded.
    - The program is tied into the SOAR program (Safe, Organized, Attentive and Respectful behaviors). Staff recognize students who go above and beyond.
    - Building leadership with older students mentor younger students.
    - Friendly competitions amongst houses and increased school spirit. It encourage sportsmanship .
    - Achievements are celebrated. It fosters unity, community and connections.
    - At the end of each quarter which ever house has the most points wins an award. At the end of the school year the house with the most points all school year wins. Points are awarded via critter coins. There is a display on the individual IPADs as well as in the hall for all student to see the points daily.
  - Upcoming house pep rally November 5th. Each student will be given a shirt that correlates with the house they are assigned. The PTO has funded the purchase of these shirts.
  - The staff continue to refine and build the house system as they grow and learn with this new program. There will be informational sheets going out to families in the next week. There is a house committee meeting Thursday 10/9.
  - QUESTIONS: Are the houses competing against each other?
    - Yes. There will be a house trophy awarded to whichever house has the highest points per quarter.
  - Which ever house wins the end of the year will be awarded additional time at the End of Year Carnival.
  - QUESTION: What will you do if there is a large inbalance at the end of the year amongst the houses? If one house doesn't win and is lacking - how will you address that going forward?
    - The committee is actively working on this and refining the program continually. All points are reset quarterly.
  - Staff present at the meeting provided some recommendations to Mrs. Jardin to help encourage better behavior outside of the classroom. Discussions being had amongst committee about this especially for areas such as the cafeteria.
  - QUESTION: In terms of scoring, are the scores changing amongst houses or is one house dominating?
    - The scores change almost daily and move frequently. There is a live view

on monitor in hallway and updates as coins are added.

- QUESTION: How do we as parents find out which house our children are in?
  - If they have iPad they can see account via portal directly or you use your students QR code you can get into their account and see which house they belong in.
- Dr. Klimaitis Budget Presentation
  - PWCS operate using site based management where the budget built based on enrollment numbers. The process starts in February when principals get budget allocations and start planning for the next school year. The budget plan is approved in May. Between May and August principals monitor enrollment numbers and adjust budget and plan accordingly/staffing accordingly. The actual budget is confirmed September 30th when principals receive budget. Final allocations received later in October.
  - There are two types of funds. Fixed funds and Flexed funds. Fixed funds pay staff, teaching and non teaching. Flex funds are operational costs, i.e. copy paper/ supplies and substitute teachers. 95% of the budget is the fixed funds, which also drive how many teachers can be staffed.
  - QUESTION: What happens if teacher is out unexpectedly and needs a substitute for the year? How does that affect the flex budget?
    - The school pays the first several days of the substitute from the flexed funds and then since it's an allocated position the funds come from a separate bucket and we are reimbursed for that from PWCS.
  - There are fixed allocated positions in the staff that are not paid on the per pupil basis. Those positions include the Principal, Assistant Principal, Librarian, office staff, custodians etc...
  - QUESTION: Is the school nurse included in the fixed allocated positions?
    - Yes
  - Per pupil income varies per grade level based on enrollment numbers
  - The kindergarten classrooms have a higher student per teacher ratio than the other grades because they have a teaching assistant in each room.
  - QUESTION: Is PreK separately funded?
    - Yes
  - There are 26 grade level homeroom teachers, not including specialty faculty. There are 20 resource encore counselors specialty faculty. There are 11 teacher assistants. Two of them are in PreK which is a requirement.
  - QUESTION: If you need a substitute for PreK does that come out of the flex budget?
    - Yes, however it is billed to PreK since they have their own budget .
  - QUESTION: Did you see a jump in enrollment numbers in any specific grade from last year to this year?
    - No
  - As the grade levels increase you can see more students per room. There are more allowed per state regulations in higher grades. 4th and 5th grade are allowed 35 students per Virginia State Board of Education standards.
  - Marshall ES principal was able to keep class sizes lower in 1st grade since they don't have TAs vs kindergarten which is larger but have two faculty per room. Below is the breakdown of students per grade level, average room size and

homeroom numbers with comparison to last school year:

- Kindergarten: 81 students with class size approx. 27 (last year 21.5)
  - 3 home rooms this year vs. 4 last year for 86 students
- First grade: 83 students with class size approx. 20.8 (last year 22.3)
  - 4 homerooms this year vs. 4 last year with 89 students
- Second grad3: 96 students with class size approx. 24 (last year 28.3)
  - 4 homerooms this year vs. 4 homerooms last year with 113 students
- Third Grade: 119 students with class size approx. 23.8 (last year 26.3)
  - 5 homerooms this year vs. 5 homerooms last year with 109 students
- Fourth Grade: 110 students with class size approx. 27.5 (last year 21.8)
  - 4 homerooms this year vs. 5 homerooms last year with 109 students
- Fifth Grade: 116 students with class size approx. 23.2 (last year 23.4)
  - 5 homerooms this year vs. 5 homerooms last year with 117 students
- Marshall ES has 18 more students this year than last year. Enrollment numbers across the whole DMV area are down.
- All In Tutoring has started today. It supports 3rd grade and 4th grade with extra help based on data and class size. If in the budget there is money Marshall ES strives to provide support to kindergarten.
- There are some students struggling with the new math curriculum. The curriculum expects students to already know the topics that they didn't. We should see some improvements in the next year. There is an emphasis on language based questions in math. Some methods are showing students there is more than one way to come to an answer and allowing students to decide and work through what works best for them.
- QUESTION: 4th grade has a heavy class size this year. Looking forward to next year is there a plan to keep the 5 teachers to bring the class sizes down for those students?
  - Dr. Klimaitis emphasized her passion to keep class sizes as small as possible. She will do what she can to ensure this happens, but remind that the budget is based on number of students.
- Meeting Ended at 5:18pm
- Next meeting Monday November 10th at 4:15pm