



School Accountability Committee

September 20, 2021

AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions
- What is the SAC
 - Responsibilities
 - Roles
 - Timelines
- About Mountain Song
 - School status
 - Demographics
- What are our priorities this year?
- Next Steps
 - SAC Schedule

WHAT IS THE SAC?

The School Accountability Committee is a MSCS Board Committee that is required by state statute to fulfill following responsibilities:

- Making recommendations on the school priorities for spending school moneys, including federal funds, (MSCS Finance Committee is responsible for this); or concerning preparation of a school Performance or Improvement plan;
- Publicizing & holding a SAC meeting to discuss strategies to include in a school Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan
- Publicizing the district's public hearing to review a written school Priority Improvement or Turnaround plan;
- Meeting at least quarterly to discuss whether school leadership, personnel, & infrastructure are advancing or impeding implementation of the school's Performance, Improvement, Priority Improvement, or Turnaround plan, whichever is applicable, & other progress pertinent to the school's accreditation contract;
- Providing input & recommendations on an advisory basis, concerning principal development plans & evaluations;
- Assisting the district in implementing at the school level the district's family engagement policy
- Publicizing opportunities to serve and soliciting parents to serve on the SAC
- Assisting school personnel to increase family engagement with teachers, including family engagement in creating READ plans, Individual Career & Academic Plans, & plans to address habitual truancy

SAC Composition

- Principal or Principal's designee
- At least one teacher
- At least three parents of students enrolled
- At least one adult member of Parent Council
- At least one community members

Parent representatives must:

- Reflect student population
- Not be employed by the school
- Have a chair or co-chair that is a parent

MSCS SAC Responsibilities:

- Helps identify strategies for school improvement/parent engagement/attendance. These strategies are included in the school's [Unified Improvement Plan](#)
- Oversees the annual Parent Engagement Survey

SAC Yearly Calendar

August – October:

- Recruit new members, especially members that are representative of student population
- Establish areas of focus & schedule for the year
- Implement onboarding plan for new members
- Elect the chair (and officers, if applicable)
- Review the SPF and DPF, results of state and local assessments, and non-assessment data (e.g., survey, engagement data)
- Review UIP before October 15 submittal (skipping this year for biennial flexibility)
- Review parent engagement policies

November-January:

- Review progress implementing the UIP and discuss any mid-course adjustments
- Continue to support implementation of the parent engagement policy
- If applicable, assist the school in increasing engagement in creating students' READ plans
- If applicable, review truancy data and provide feedback on plans to address habitual truancy
- Review current year budget and discuss implications for the upcoming school year (Finance Committee)

SAC Yearly Calendar Continued

February – April

- Review progress implementing the UIP and discuss any mid-course adjustments that should be made
- Develop and disseminate parent engagement survey (review results if available)
- If applicable, assist the school in increasing parent engagement with READ Plan Development/truancy

May-July Activities (If meeting)

- Nominate a new chair, determine the schedule, and solicit new membership for the upcoming year
- Develop and review the new member onboarding plan
- Review bylaws and operating procedures to determine if any adjustments should be made
- Review and provide feedback on the UIP for the upcoming school year using the quality criteria.

ABOUT MOUNTAIN SONG

- Started in 2013
- Only Waldorf-based school in the Pikes Peak Region
- Public charter school authorized by Charter School Institute
- Recently changed from Three-fold governance model to Executive Director model



ABOUT MOUNTAIN SONG

Continued

- Charter renewed by CSI last year
 - – received 3 years plus 2 contract
- Still maintains "Performance Rating" by state
- Programs offered:
 - Village (in-person) Homeschool Enrichment
 - Frontier (online) Homeschool Enrichment
 - Justice and Heritage Academy
 - Full-time educational services

ABOUT MOUNTAIN SONG STUDENTS

- ~400 students in total enrolled
 - 63% White/non-Hispanic
 - 26% Hispanic
 - 9% Two or More Races
 - 2% - Black/African American, Asian, or American Indian or Alaska Native
- ~ 30% of FRL students
- ~ 12% receiving special education services (not including students with 504 plans)
- ~ 13% mobility rate (as of EOY SY20-21)

Academics - CMAS

MSCS English Language Arts % Met or Exceeded

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
MSCS	41.0	43.8	42.9
Colorado Springs 11	34.1	37.4	39.5
State	42.3	44.5	45.8

MSCS Math % Met or Exceeded

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
MSCS	24.5	15.5	11.5
Colorado Springs 11	25.6	27.9	29.0
State	32.8	34.1	34.7

MSCS Science % Met or Exceeded

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
MSCS	25.0	29.8	31.3
Colorado Springs 11	24.8	25.9	23.8
State	30.8	31.2	30.7

State Performance Framework

Year	Rating	Achievement 40 Points Possible	Growth 60 Points Possible	Total 100 Points Possible
2019-20 ¹	Performance	20.0	33.8	53.8
2018-19	Performance	20.0	33.8	53.8
2017-18	Performance	23.9	37.5	61.4
2016-17	Performance	23.0	36.7	59.7

Notes: 1) 2019-20 results are the same as 2018-19 due to no state testing in 2019-20 as a result of state mandated school closures.

- MSCS has received a "Performance" rating for the State Performance Framework ("SPF") every year since its second year of operations.
- The School consistently outperforms the Colorado Springs 11 school district (the "District") in English language arts and science.
- Math improvement strategy:
 - A middle school math teacher was hired in the 2019-20 school year to provide consistency and expertise in math instruction for grades 5 through 8.
 - The School offered a math camp over the 2021 summer.
- Due to its holistic education, MSCS is recommended by Pediatricians and special needs service providers to students with learning disabilities, skewing its assessment results.
- Many families opt out of state CMAS testing, some of which have high performing students.
- The Authorizer understands the Waldorf model does not "teach to a test" and board members have indicated they appreciate MSCS' innovative nature.

Academics – NWEA MAP

NWEA MAP Reading Results: % At or Above Benchmark¹

Grade	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	BOY	EOY	BOY	EOY	BOY	EOY
3rd	38	58	39	N/A	47	38
4th	46	60	48	N/A	68	53
5th	72	83	57	N/A	32	55
6th	74	71	85	N/A	79	57
7th	71	65	82	N/A	87	79
8th	81	79	71	N/A	85	82

Demographics by Class (%)²

2020-21 BOY SPED or Disability
28
45
21
29
27
40

NWEA MAP Math Results: % At or Above Benchmark¹

Grade	2018-19		2019-20		2020-21	
	BOY	EOY	BOY	EOY	BOY	EOY
3rd	42	25	38	N/A	32	32
4th	52	50	35	N/A	40	37
5th	51	49	38	N/A	45	25
6th	40	39	60	N/A	50	36
7th	43	35	50	N/A	63	55
8th	47	50	39	N/A	65	53

Demographics by Class (%)²

2020-21 BOY SPED or Disability
38
50
20
29
27
40

Notes: 1) Measured by students in the "Average" to "High" percentile category.

2) Based on BOY student population that took the exam.

N/A) indicates testing did not occur due to COVID-19.

MSCS Priorities for SY21-22 (besides COVID)

- MOVING!!!
 - Our lease at the Whittier Elementary building ends in June 2022 and we need to move in summer 2022.
 - Recruiting & retaining enrollment for the move.
- Academics
 - Addressing academic learning loss
 - Historic trend of low test scores, especially in math
 - Developing school wide scope and sequence aligned to standards
- Engagement
 - Social-Emotional Learning
 - Improving attendance & parent communication
 - Increasing and supporting students/families/staff of all cultural backgrounds, learning abilities, ethnicities, lifestyles, gender identification, and sexual orientation

Next Steps:

- Next SAC Meeting on October 11th – updated: now meeting the second Monday of every month
- SAC Recruitment - need to elect chair (parent representative)
- Review of data (2021 Parent Engagement Survey, SY20-21 UIP, assessment data)
- Next MSCS Board of Directors Meeting on October 5th



Receive the children in reverence,
educate them in love, and send them
forth in freedom.

~ Rudolf Steiner