

# Budget Feedback Meeting Minutes

## MAYNARD H. JACKSON HIGH SCHOOL

Date: **February 15, 2023**

Time: **5:15pm**

Location: **MJHS Media Center**

- I. Call to order: **5:18pm**
- II. Roll Call

Role	Name (or Vacant)	Present or Absent
Principal	Adam Danser	Present
Parent/Guardian	Alayna Blash	Present
Parent/Guardian	Monica Howard	Present
Instructional Staff	Quinyonta Downer	Present
Instructional Staff	Jandi Harris	Present
Instructional Staff	Yusef King	Present
Community Member	Kamau Bobb	Absent
Community Member	Suzanne Mitchell	Present
Swing Seat	Lewis Cartee	Present
Student (High Schools)	Samuel Quartarone	Present
Student (High Schools)	Mauriyah Glenn	Absent

Guests Present: **NA**

Quorum Established: **Yes**

### III. Action Items

- a. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion made by: **Lewis Cartee**; Seconded by: **Suzanne Mitchell**  
 Members Approving: **All Members Present**  
 Members Opposing: **None**  
 Members Abstaining: **None**  
**Motion Passes**
- b. **Approval of Previous Minutes:**  
 Motion made by: **Jandi Harris**; Seconded by: **Lewis Cartee**  
 Members Approving: **All Members Present**  
 Members Opposing: **None**  
 Members Abstaining: **None**  
**Motion Passes**

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## IV. Discussion Items

### a. Budget Development Presentation:

- i. Dr. Danser covers the norms and reminds the group that we previously covered the data & strategic plan review. He also explained that we are now on Step 5 of the budget process. He says that in this meeting, we will get into the “what, where, & why”. The next step is a staffing conference. He gives a moment to review the budget parameters. “This is not a dollar-for-dollar breakdown”, he explains. Most of it goes to staff. He describes the strategic plan categories. He adds that, “we are going to maintain all of our teachers” and that there will be there no cuts to any teaching staff. He was able to move an ELA position from CARES Act funding to Fund 150. The school will retain five counselors. All the MJHS staff will return. We will also maintain two graduation coaches. The principal has been in touch with Communities in Schools to discuss whether or not that partnership will continue.
- ii. Mrs. Blash asks about the difference between a counselor, a graduation coach, and a college advisor. Dr. Danser explains that college advisors are to provide support for college from ninth to twelfth grade. We also added the graduation coach to help seniors who are behind or unknown.
- iii. Regarding IB funding, everything is in one “bucket. This does not include supplies (see details in presentation). There is still money for stipends for teachers who proctor IB/AP exams workshops/training (professional learning), as well as money to pay the educators for unit planning or for their time to work afterhours outside of designated school time.
- iv. The principal explains that there are two “rollouts” of CARES Act funding. There is \$130k in unused CARES Act funding that we can use next year. Fortunately, the CARES funding rolls over into the following year.
- v. Regarding overcrowding, there will be a “residency officer” to verify student addresses to ensure that enrolled students live in the Jackson attendance zone. Midtown and Jackson have the same issue with overcrowding. The ongoing challenge is that each freshman does not submit residency documents. They will make sure that we have accurate residency documentation for our freshmen. It will be a shared position between Jackson & Midtown. One position that may be leaving due to funding is our school technology person. We cannot support that position on Fund 150, but we can support it for the 2023-2024 school year. The conversation was had with the faculty member in question, so they are aware. We still may need technical support for the teachers. If the budget is higher next year, we may be able to regain the position. We will not

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need to hire a new person because the position is not permanent. We will also maintain two non-instructional paraprofessionals that we use as hall monitors. Nevertheless, we are developing a transition plan.

- vi. Our parent liaison has left due to personal family issues. We have \$15,000 for Parent outreach. We purposely mail letters to see if the mail is returned to determine the students' attendance zone. The parent liaison position is different from a teacher position, so they can be fulfilled this year if available.
- vii. The budget for this year is very similar to last year. However, if we are going to increase of FTE, we may need to conduct physical home visits. Nevertheless, there are some reserve funds. The principal explains that he wanted to hold on to it and not spend it prematurely. He would like to add additional instructional paraprofessionals. Based on our numbers, we have 15 ½ interrelated teachers and several instructional paraprofessionals. He also adds that they are doing a good job. It is likely we can keep them for next year. He would also like to purchase enough Chromebooks for Chromebook carts that the school controls. That way, if a students' laptop is damaged or isn't charged, we can just "switch it out" on the spot. We have carts for testing. But we like to improve our instructional technology. The principal alludes to 3D tools that are pretty remarkable and supports all subjects/content, but it is very expensive. It supports all content.
- viii. The principal adds that we have enough for rainy days. Plus, there is no loss of funds due to Title I this year. Mrs. Mitchell asks, "What are we losing?". Dr. Danser replies that we would mainly potentially lose Communities in Schools, and a reduced number of subs for paraprofessionals. He also adds that schools are not responsible for FMLA, but some other items. The amount for teaching supplies may go from 90k to 40k. We don't need to purchase textbooks. We also have a national representative for Donors Choose on staff. We are not going to start the year without supplies. We have only had issues purchasing certain international resources. When asked how much we have to cut, Dr. Danser replies roughly about \$150k. There is a vacant position for non-instructional staff, but overall, we will be okay. Some funds are set aside for teacher/faculty incentives.

b. **Discussion Item 2:**

- i. Mrs. Mitchell asks if there is any additional advocacy that the GO Team can provide. The principal expresses gratitude that they could have taken

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all the money at one time, but didn't. Dr. King asks which departments provides funding that are not associated with Title funds. The principal lists Fine Arts, CTAE, IB, JROTC, for example.

- ii. Dr. Danser explains that we are different from all other APS high schools demographically. Even though we may lose Title I, the school is still nearly 50% low income. So this is uncharted territory. Nevertheless, the addition of the unused funds is helpful.
- iii. We are sharing our ESOL position with another school. Staffing/HR conferences will take place on February 27, 2023. The budget is locked in on the following Friday.
- iv. Mr. Cartee asks to better understand the needs of the school. What are the goals and how do we know that our methods are working? The response includes a reduction in Level 4 offences and better academic results for freshmen. Mr. Cartee replies by asking how will we know if/when these goals are achieved? How effective are our strategies? What can we do differently and what would be appropriate? The GO Team would like to hear from the instructional leaders in Math, English, etc. and to take a deep dive into their data and strategies. They would like to know what the GO Team can do to further assist – so the more information the better.

## V. Information Items

- a. **Principal's Report** Not Applicable

## VI. Announcements

- a. Several GO Team members mention that Senior Night was a smashing success and that the simultaneous baseball & basketball games were so much fun. Some went so far as to say they were the best games ever because the campus was abuzz with school pride.
- b. There will be a GO Team Math textbook adoption meeting soon.
- c. Mr. Cartee asks about facilities and alludes to Midtown High School's renovation. What about Jackson? He asks that the district shares their recommendations.

## VII. Adjournment

Motion made by: Suzanne Guy-Mitchell; Seconded by: Lewis Cartee

Members Approving: All present

Members Opposing: None

Members Abstaining: None

Motion Passes

**ADJOURNED AT 6:35pm**

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**Minutes Taken By:** Yusef King

**Position:** GO Team Secretary

**Date Approved:** March 15, 2023