



Superintendent's Lay Advisory Council (SLAC)

3/10/25 - 6:30 p.m. - Zoom

6:35 Meeting Start

[Meeting Zoom Link](#)

HS

- ☒ Melanie Allen
- ☒ Jill Speizer
- ☒ Anne Marie Swinehart
- ☐ Laura Boniello Miller
- ☐ Sharee Livingston Anderson

MS

- ☐ Jackie Wachinski
- ☒ Meghan Ryan-Keller
- ☒ Alex Massie
- ☒ Janny Kim Lee

Landis Run

- ☒ Shannon Zimmerman
- ☐ Cindy Ferris
- ☐ Melissa Grosh
- ☐ Marie Dennis

Brecht

- ☒ Landon Detweiler
- ☐ Michael King
- ☒ Abby Fiorentino

Bucher

- ☒ Libby Muehlbach
- ☐ Katy Miller
- ☒ Soraya Hintz

Neff

- ☐ Rachel Levine
- ☐ Kisha Johnson
- ☒ Lori DeTemple

Nitrauer

- ☒ Allie Hardy
- ☒ Karin Gemade
- ☒ Danielle Schmehl

Reidenbaugh

- ☐ Vivian Montoya
- ☐ Jessie Styers
- ☒ Madison South

Schaeffer

- ☒ Jennifer Spatz
- ☒ Michelle Frisby
- ☒ Adam Hosey

1. Dr. Dale Reimann, Acting Superintendent

a. Attendance (as attendees arrive)

Amber Mentz Director of Special Ed

Ashley Keath K-4 Instructional Technology Coach

Nic DeMarco MDS Teacher at HS

Dr. Sharon Schaefer

b. Greeting/Welcome

2. Approval of 1/13/25 Meeting Minutes

a. SLAC Leadership Approved by Alex Massie (MS); Second by: Adam Hosey (Schaeffer)

3. Presentation: Special Education and Inclusive Programs

a. Nic DeMarco, Special Education Teacher

b. Amber Mentz, Director of Special Education (present)

- *See PowerPoint for details*

- Overview of special education in MTSD
- Best Buddies
 - social inclusion, equal employment opportunities, self advocacy, leadership development, and empowerment
 - different levels of membership (peer buddy, associate member)
- Unified Art and Music (programs included: MDS, life skills support, autistic support)
- Special Olympics: partnership started Spring of 2023 (MTSD was state championship in track and field in 2023 and 2024)
 - Unified bocce

4. PTO Sharing - Reflections & Questions

a. (Reimann) Follow up on Athletic Area Traffic Inquiry from 11/11/24 SLAC Meeting

- Update → Matt (transportation director) busses will keep lights on and stop signs extended so traffic has to wait until kids are safely out of the traffic area

b. (Cohen) iPad Use at MT

i. [Guidelines for Use of Electronic Devices](#) (a link from MT's homepage)

- Madison South - Is there a set amount of time kids have access to it? Voice texting concerned it's impacting OT skills and learning how to

spell.

- Dr. Sharon Schaefer - if there are any concerns, please go to the teacher/principal. We look for a balance of tech and no tech.
- Question from: Michelle Frisby- is there an overall teaching for when to use tech text/write
 - Response from Dr. Sharon Schaefer: Dependent on what skills the teacher is assessing
- Question from Madison South - Do kids learn typing?
 - Response from Dr. Sharon Schaefer: They learn keyboarding via an app
- Comment from Dr. Schaefer- tool kit on our website for resources about technology
- Question from Gemade: Do they learn cursive? (yes) and the dui decimal (yes) (responses from Sharon Schaefer)
- Comment from Danielle Schmehl: consider getting keyboards in elementary school for ipads
 - Response from Ashley Keath - In 2025-2026 school year all will have attached keyboards. (all students k-12)
- Question from Alex Massie (what time do we review handwriting)
 - Response from Sharon Schaefer: ongoing - but focused in elementary school so unless there is a problem in later grades it may not be assessed
- Question from Shannon Zimmerman: How many instructional coaches? How do you create professional development?
 - Response from Ashley Keath - 3 coaches. Microlearning (take this one tip and try it), available during the day for coaching). Monthly professional development and inservice days.
 - Response from Sharon Schaefer - IU-13 completes the training of our coaches

ii. Guest: *Ashley Keath, K-4 Instructional Technology Coach* (see powerpoint)

- Coach and collaborate
- Innovate and Engage
- Professional Development
- Enhance Learning with Technology
- STEM and Future - Ready Skills

c. (Hintz) District events and religious observances

- Soraya Hintz - decision made that going forward when the district calendar is being planned, they will avoid certain holidays - but the district did not uphold their agreement. She indicated that the district will try again next school year - but she felt very disappointed that this year it did not happen (see previous SLAC

notes for specific holidays)

- Karin Gemade also said January 7th - Orthodox Christmas
- Adam Hosey - also said Eid al-Fitr (state holiday)

Motion to End: 7:52 (Shannon Zimmerman and Danielle Schmehl)

Manheim Township School District

District Mission Statement

Nurture and Challenge for Success

District North Star Statement

To create a welcoming and supportive environment where all students, staff and families feel a sense of belonging