



Saint Paul Public Schools

COB Meeting

Tuesday, January 9, 2018 4:30 PM

**SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625**

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BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Committee of the Board – Zuki Ellis, Vice Chair

SPPS VISION STATEMENT

Imagine every student
Inspired, challenged, and cared for by exceptional educators
Imagine your family
Welcomed, respected, and valued by exceptional schools
Imagine our community
United, strengthened, and prepared for an exceptional future
Saint Paul Public Schools: Where imagination meets destination

MISSION of the Saint Paul Public Schools – PREMIER EDUCATION FOR ALL

Long-Range Goals Adopted by the Board:

HIGH ACHIEVEMENT

Learners will meet the highest district and state standards through a learning journey that is academically rich and rigorous.

MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

Learners will understand the relationship between their lives and the lives of others, and the relevance of their educational experiences to their roles in society.

RESPECTFUL ENVIRONMENT

The learning environment will be safe, nurturing and equitable for our diverse learners.

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
Saint Paul, Minnesota
COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD MEETING
Administration Building
360 Colborne Street

January 9, 2018
4:30 PM

A G E N D A

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Introductions

II. AGENDA

A. Superintendent's Update

B. SEAB Presentation - Expanded Student Voice

1. Introduction

2. Presentation

4

3. Discussion

C. 2017 Audit Report

1. Introduction

2. Presentation

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3. Discussion

4. Action (Acceptance of Report)

III. ADJOURNMENT

A District-Wide Structure for Authentic Student Voice

St. Paul Public Schools

Student Engagement and Advancement Board



Presentation Purpose

Propose an expanded model of authentic student voice for St. Paul Public Schools. To ensure the concerns of students are heard by creating a new structure of student engagement.

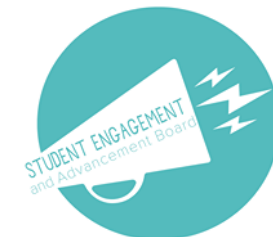
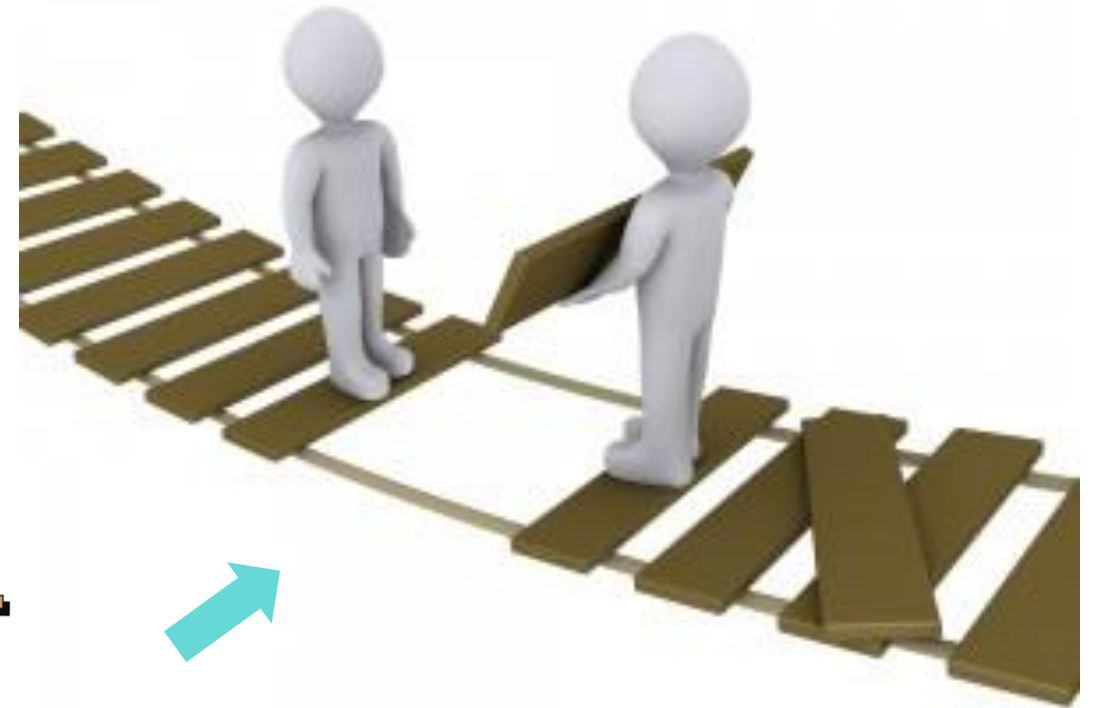
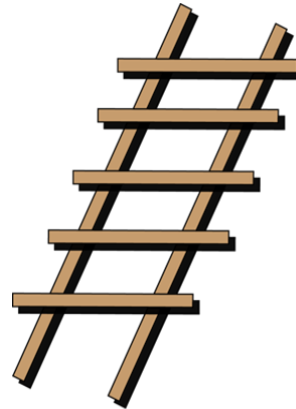


Project Research Methods

- Building survey to all SPPS principals
 - 22/54 building leaders responded
- 7 Expert Interviews
- 11 Focus groups 200 with students (elementary thru secondary)

SEAB Values

- Inclusivity
- Authenticity
- Collaboration
- Shared Power
- Consistent Structure



THE YOUTH ENGAGEMENT REVOLUTION



SEAB's Impacts to Date

- Discourse
- Practice
- Policy

Student Engagement Retweeted
Hans Ott @Hans_G_Ott · 8/9/17
SPPS, students at the center with @SPPSStudentAdva at
#adminacademy My commitment to support absent
narratives in our curriculum



1

3

9

EDUCATION

St. Paul students talk policy, on-the-ground reality with board members

By Erin Hinrichs | 02/02/17

Email Share Tweet Print



St. Paul Schools seniors Serena Jing, Ruby Sutton and Skyler Kuczboski are on the Student Engagement and Advancement Board.

Right before winter break, a group of students presented a list of recommendations to the St. Paul school board on how the district could better support inclusivity in its schools.

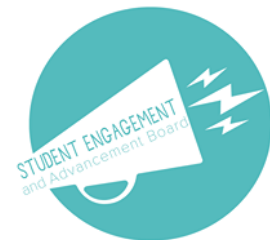
Their recommendations addressed issues like dress codes that are gendered and objectifying, unchecked microaggressions — words or actions that, however subtle or well-intended, make students feel marginalized — and buildings, like Ramsey Middle

Intended Impact of an Expanded Structure

In focus groups, students predicted that the impacts of authentic student partnership in all schools would include:

- More leadership opportunities
- Stronger sense of community
- More role models
- Safer, more welcoming environment

“Students will voice their concerns and then others would piggyback from their methods and soon we’ll have a snowball effect of improved school environment”



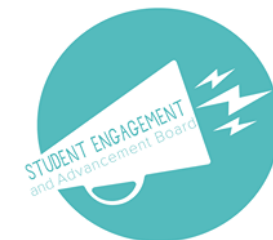
Required Components of Student Voice

Component	Student Focus Groups	Expert Interviews
Inclusive	√	√
Shared Power	√	√
Engaging	√	√
Safe Space	√	√
Authentic	√	√

Inclusive

- Amplify all voices
- All are invited
- Free of judgement
- Diversity

“A space where everyone is welcome and all voices are heard helps to better accommodate students and their needs.”



Shared Power

- Student's know their truth
- Everyone's expertise is at the table
- Everyone is a powerful problem solver

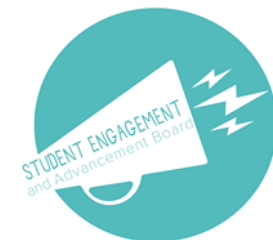
“The ones who are in the problem know the problem and have struggled through it. So let those people be heard and make a change.”



Engaging

- Everyone is a leader, and mentor of one another
- Work is fun and meaningful

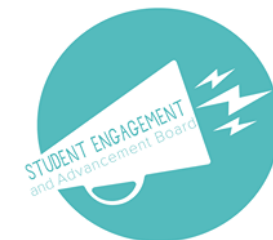
“Make school a better place where more student voices are heard, not just from the talkative people, so that students can make a difference.”



Safe Space

- A space to speak your truth
- Multiple truths are seen and valued
- Respect towards one another

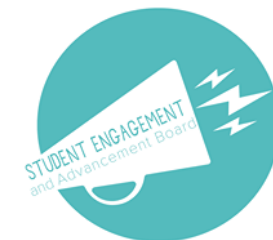
*“We can feel wanted,
and...we can speak up and
have a right for
everything.”*



Authentic

- Consistent
- There is follow through on the part of staff
- Everyone is a leader
- Good communication

“Authenticity means working collectively and ACTUALLY creating change”

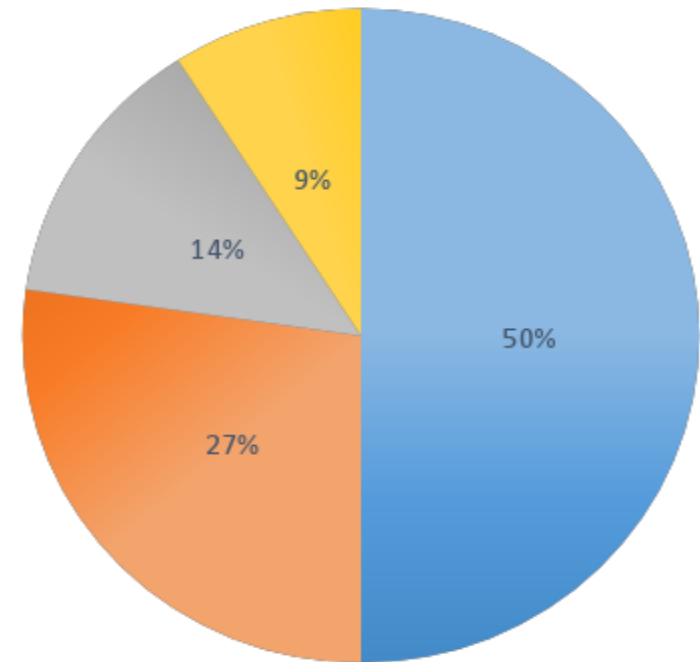


Expanded Structure

Building leaders said they need:

- Staff
- Time
- Resources (training, support)
- A flexible model that allows schools to do what works for them
- Consistency over time

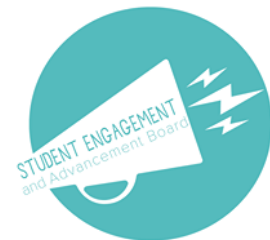
Building Leaders Working to Expand Student Voice



- Have an existing structure or group
- Working on it
- Interested
- May not be interested

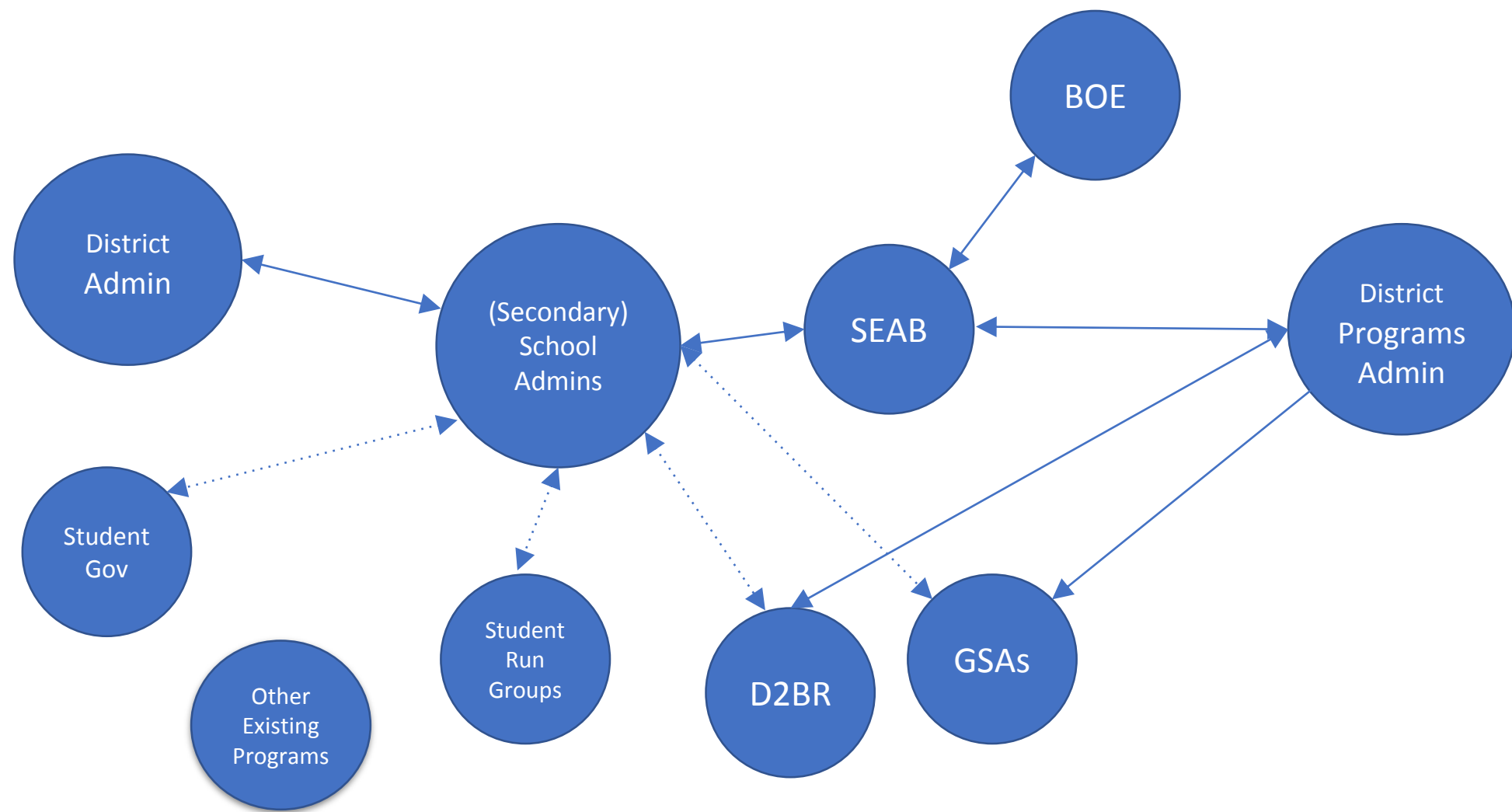
“There are no mass answers; there are masses of answers. Different buildings need to find ways for increasing student voice and engagement in ways that work for them.”

-Principal, Michael Thompson



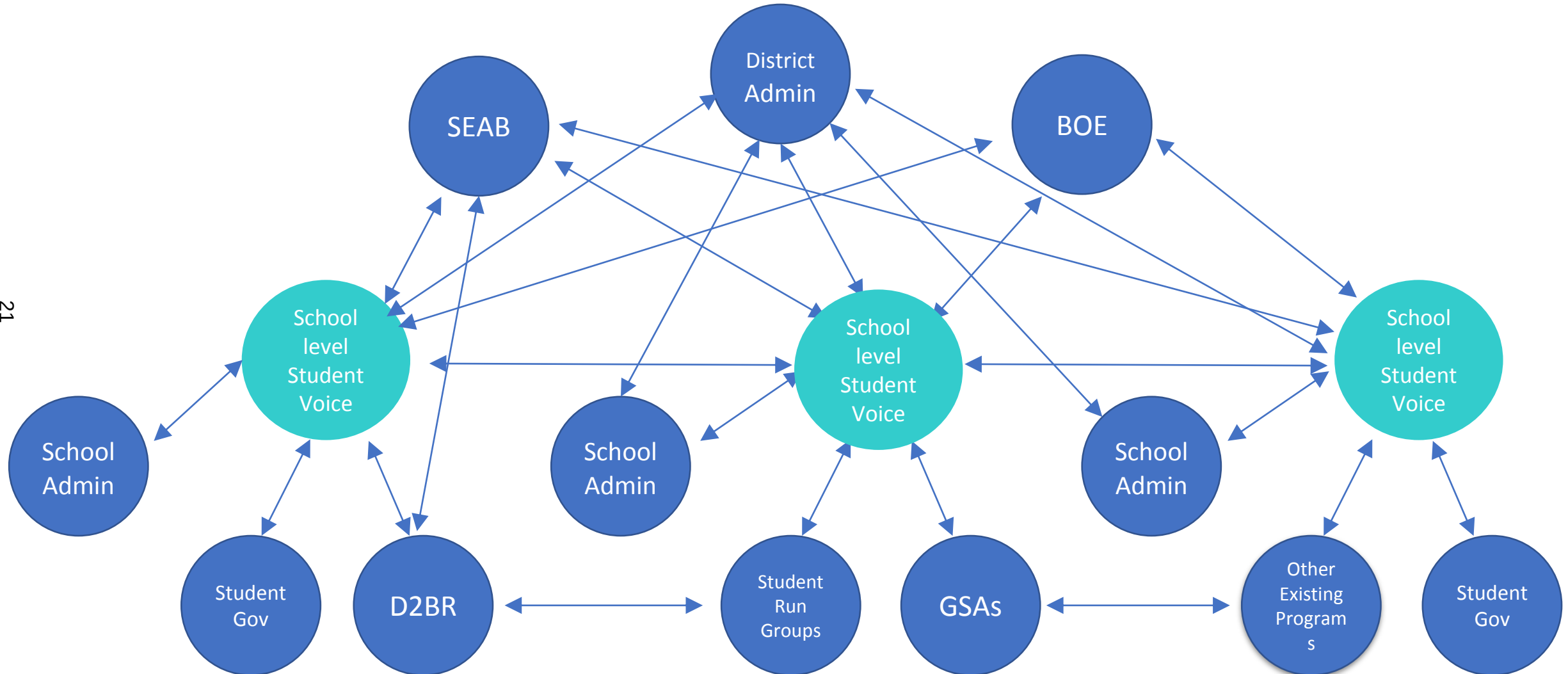
SPPS Student Voice Structure Today

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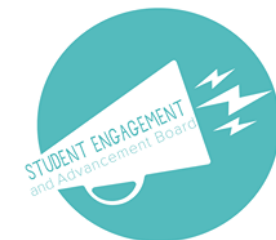
Proposed Structure of Student Voice

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Structural Goals & Resources Needed

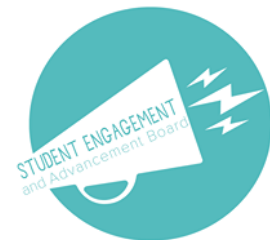
- **Increase Student Voice (Consistency)**
 - Shared values, staff time, training supports & funding to support student voice in buildings
 - Mechanism for students meeting during school
- **Increase District-Wide Connectedness**
 - Dedicated staff time
 - District-wide “Summer Summit”
- **Increase Communication**
 - Dedicated staff time
 - Website



Ideas on Embedding Student Voice

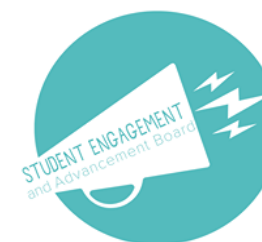
- Student Voice is a component of the strategic plan
- Student Voice and Student Partnership are seen as a key aspect of SPPS's equity work.
- Student Voice is included in School Improvement Plans
- Looking forward to your ideas

“Youth of all ages deserve to have their voice heard, everyone has unique experiences and when they come together it can create great things”



Facebook: Student Engagement and Advancement Board

Twitter & Instagram: SPPSSEAB



**INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 625
SAINT PAUL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

PLACE HOLDER

2017 AUDIT REPORT