

Satchel Ford Elementary School
School Improvement Council

January 8, 2026
5:30 p.m.
Media Center

Agenda

<p><u>Committee Members:</u> Caleb Gaston, Chair Maddy Barbian, Co-Vice Chair Berry Mattox, Co-Vice Chair Sarah Roberts, Secretary Katie Smith, PTO President Daniel Hudson Kathleen Muthig Andy Sipes Susan Wheeler</p>	<p><u>SFES Faculty:</u> Dr. Matthew Scandrol, Principal Ortega Missouri, Assistant Principal Consuela Yisreal, Parent Liaison</p> <p><u>Guests:</u> Laury Andreo Matt Andreo Emily Carmichael Patrick Cogan Megan Latella Meagan McDonald</p>
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- I. Welcome and Call to Order
 - A. Establishment of quorum
 - B. Compliance with FOIA

Chair Gaston called the meeting to order, a quorum was established, and it was noted that the group follows all requirements of the Freedom of Information Act.

- II. Approval of November 6, 2025 Meeting Minutes

As the December meeting was cancelled, the November meeting Minutes were approved, and there was no further discussion.

- III. PTO Update

Ms. Smith noted that January and February are busy months. The Braves Benefit adults fundraiser is scheduled for 1/22/26, and that tickets are still available. VIP Day will be held on 1/29/26, and more information will be sent home with students. BoosterThon is being planned, with incentives to be finalized. [Steam in the Park](#) will be the main recipient of raised funds this year, to provide professional development for 5th grade teachers. February 6th will be the next kindergarten orientation, open to both future parents and students. Additional Spirit Nights are being scheduled for the rest of the year.

- IV. Principal's School Update

Dr. Scandrol noted that December was busy, with concerts and events with community groups, and that the Giving Tree was successful. Current enrollment is at 735, and a few additional students may be coming in the next few weeks.

V. Continued Business

A. SIC Member Handbooks and Information

Ms. Muthig noted that she is in the process of updating the bylaws.

B. Lunch Buddies

- a. Volunteers
- b. Students

Ms. Muthig shared that 14 students have been identified for the program, and that six adult volunteers will be matched with them. Permission forms will go home with the students soon, so that they can meet with their mentors a few times before the end of the school year. They will meet two times per month, during their lunch time, so that there can be open discussion. Ms. Muthig noted that the goal is for these six students to continue with their mentors, while others are added to the program next year.

C. Watch DOGS

- a. Volunteer recruitment
- b. Responsibilities while onsite

Mr. Missouri stated that he welcomes all volunteers, as some will come to volunteer unannounced, but that he does prefer to be notified ahead of time. [There is a link](#) to sign up on the PTO website. Volunteers spend their time helping in the cafeteria or playground, not going into classrooms.

D. Maintenance

a. Fencing

A temporary patch job on the fence is up, a contractor will come to do a permanent repair.

b. Awnings for portables

This has been noted as a capital project, and a visit to assess the project will be happening soon.

c. Mold on ceiling tiles – Ms. Livingston

The tile was replaced on 12/11/25, but after mold appeared again, it was noted that the roof needs to be assessed, to potentially permanently fix the problem.

d. Other items

A tree has been taken out of playground. The front area of the school has been graded and seeded for grass. The side carline sinkhole has been patched. A few malfunctioning fire alarm magnet doors are being repaired.

E. Playground Equipment

a. Gaga pit replacement

The replacement is in process.

b. Monkey bar removal

They are all gone, and new piece of equipment will be replacing it.

c. Kindergarten swings replacement

New swings came in but were put in the big playground. More swings have been ordered.

d. Basketball goals

Repairs are in process.

e. Other items

The adaptive swing will be repurposed.

Dr. Scandrol stated that he will send a comprehensive list of needed changes to both the Executive Director and to Maintenance, and that he will ask for a timeline for the changes.

VI. New Business

A. Open faculty or staff positions that provide student resources

a. School psychologist assigned?

Dr. Scandrol let the group know that an outside agency ([Little Johnny](#)), will be providing services until more staff are hired by the District. The psychologist provides services remotely but does come onsite for meetings and evaluations.

B. Distributions beyond SNAP benefits

Food items were collected, and the drive was successful.

C. SIC composition

a. 6 elected parents, 2 elected teachers, and 4 appointed members

Chair Gaston reminded the group of the types of members that make up the Committee and noted that it is always open to new members and participation.

D. Safety: PA system in gym, hallway door security

Dr. Scandrol stated that these items are in process.

E. Strategic Plan Review and Development

Chair Gaston noted that part of the SIC's responsibilities is to assist with the annual [School Improvement Plan](#) and let Dr. Scandrol know that the group is happy to assist, where needed.

Dr. Scandrol stated that we are in the first of the five years for the current Plan. It started with a needs assessment, and then Goals are built. The Plan provides the data for the annual [School Report Card](#). All applicable staff are currently going through the Letter Program, among other optional professional development programs.

Dr. Scandrol pointed out that the [SC School Improvement Council](#) focuses on Goal #4, School Climate. Satchel Ford is currently at 124 office referrals for the school year (about the same frequency as the prior school year). The group discussed what makes up a referral, and Mr. Missouri stated that it is a formal need for administrative intervention, but that it does not necessarily mean there is a documented disciplinary action.

VII. Public Comments

Ms. Muthig asked if Dr. Walker and Satchel Ford's Executive Director could be invited to the school, to showcase the positive environment. It was decided that Ms. Smith and Dr. Scandrol would invite them to VIP Day, and any other appropriate PTO events.

Chair Gaston asked if there were any questions, comments, or concerns from any guests, and Dr. Scandrol stated that he would prefer to speak with them after the meeting.

VIII. Other Discussion

A. 2026 meeting dates/times

Chair Gaston reminded the group that meetings are the first Thursday of each month @ 5:30pm in Media Center. The next meeting will be on 2/5/26.

B. Report to Parents

Chair Gaston reminded the group that the annual Report to Parents is due on 4/30/26. Mr. Sipes will review and draft updates, with Ms. Muthig assisting.

C. SIC assistance with School Report Card narrative

Chair Gaston reminded the group that the annual narrative accompanies the Report Card, and that it usually summarizes information from the Report to Parents.

D. Parent engagement

Ms. Yisreal let the group know that at the SC State Fair, over 500 students were served. The AC Flora Fitness Bowl is on 2/7/26.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Gaston adjourned the meeting at 6:15pm.