Alcott SAC Minutes
Date: October 16, 2025 at 8am
Location: Alcott Conference Room (with zoom option)
Zoom Login:
https://concordps.zoom.us/j/98130315064?pwd=DaWFwpvazVwmCD0V9s2RharbWNnVjd.1&jst=2

Agenda Item	**Notes**
Introductions	In attendance: Theodore DiSciscio, Samantha Booth, Grace Giles, Monica Woodman, Naomi Krakow
Welcome to Alcott's School Advisory Council Role of SAC https://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/advisory/schoolcouncils/default.html	
Updates ● Open Circle ● Expeditionary Learning ● Budget Update ● Vision of a Graduate: Invitation	EL is increasing academic language, deeper reflection Parent forum for EL
Discussion ● Letter to 5th grade re: group chats (see draft below) ● From last year - candy during MCAS discussion	Letter - appreciate it as a parent In years past, I may have sent a note like this in reaction to an incident. This year, we are trying to be more proactive. Is the reason for pushing back against candy because everyone brings something different?
Next Meeting ● Agenda Items ● Meeting Date: December 3, 2025	

Alcott SAC Membership

Committee Member	**Role**
Naomi Krakow	Faculty - Principal
Emily O'Hara	Faculty - 3rd Grade Teacher
Monica Woodman	Faculty - 1st Grade Teacher
Theodore DiSciscio	Parent - 2nd Grade

Grace Giles	Parent - 1st and 3rd Grade
Samantha Booth	Parent - 2nd Grade

Email Draft:

Dear 5th Grade Families,

I hope this message finds you well. As many of you may be aware, 5th grade is a time when many students begin to participate in group chats through text or social media apps. Even students without cell phones may access these chats on tablets. While these conversations typically happen outside of school hours - since cell phones and smart devices are not allowed during the day - the tone and content of messages sent at night can easily carry over into school, especially if unkind words are exchanged.

We've also noticed that students often can't identify everyone in their group chats, as new numbers are sometimes added without their knowledge. This can lead to uncomfortable or unsafe situations online.

We encourage families to actively monitor their child's device use to ensure that they are both protected from hurtful content and making respectful choices themselves. Some families find it helpful to adopt a "no devices in bedrooms" rule or require that devices be used only in shared spaces. This simple step often promotes safer and more thoughtful online behavior.

Thank you for partnering with us to support our students in developing positive digital habits. We haven't had any technology-related issues spill into school yet this year, and we'd love to keep it that way! As always, please reach out to me or your child's teacher with any questions.

Warmly,
Naomi Krakow