

SAC Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 16th, 2026

Agenda: • Welcome and introductions • Principal Update • Bond work over the summer • UIP information • MLO factual presentation • Teacher Update • DAC update • Open 26-27 Dac Positions • Adjourn	Committee Members: • Chair: Laura Murray • Vice Chair: Open *Lana Taussig • Recorder: Open *Ben Knopf • DAC Rep: Clay Weiland • PGEA Liaison: Lizzie Donlin • Community Member: Open • Teacher Rep: Michelle Bender • Principal: Kelly Coonts • Vice Principal: Jen O’Leary
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SAC Committee Members Present:

1. Kelly Coonts
2. Michelle Bender
3. Laura Murray

Additional attendees:

1. Jen O’Leary
2. Ben Knopf
3. Lana Taussig

Principal Update:

- We are so excited to see new faces at the meeting tonight, grateful for their dedication to Pine Grove’s SAC community.
- Kelly presented the bond work that has been completed at Pine Grove over the summer, and some that is still being worked on.
- Kelly also presented information behind and about Pine Grove’s New Unified Improvement Plan (UIP):

UIP Information:

- Every two years, schools look through all their collected data to find areas for improvement. With a district wide focus on math, Pine Grove will be compacting and flexing to challenge all students in math, with a continued focus on reading. Pine Grove will continue to focus on fluency and comprehension.

- By using the CMAS data, teachers will investigate the priorities, root cause and the improvement strategies used in their teaching. The UIP goal for the 2026-2027 school year will focus on the following.
 - Math: Teachers will focus on teaching the skill of modeling as this is the lowest performing math domain in CMAS.
 - Reading: Teachers will focus on meeting or succeeding grade level expectation in reading by 78%, 81% and 85% over the next few years.

MLO Presentation:

- Kelly presented a historical perspective of the past MLO and Bonds passed since 2023
 - 2023- \$66 million Mill Levy Override passed- increased teacher pay, SRO and security
 - 2024- \$490 million Bond passed: Money needed for building and repairing
 - 2026-\$54 million MLO ask:
 - Would increase taxes immediately by \$33.70/year for every \$100,000 in home value.
 - Priorities include increased teacher and staff pay, school safety and security support, Career and technical education, and restored music programming for Elementary grades.
 - An Indexed MLO is being presented this time. Most other districts have indexed MLOs. They adjust over time based on inflation. Costs generally remain the same for individual households because of the continued home/population growth in Douglas County. Additionally with an indexed MLO, the district does not have to ask the taxpayers for a new MLO every four years.

Teacher Update:

- Michelle Bender, 6th Grade, gave a great overview about how time during the PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) is used during the late arrival Fridays.
- The 45-minute meetings are very purposeful with time in collaboration focused groups. Grade level teams meet to review data and align State Standards. “What do we want the students to learn and how will we know if they have or have not learned it?”
- The teachers then focus on implementing targeted instruction, enrichment and interventions to meet all student needs.
- PLCs for the first half of the year are focused on language arts, second half of the year the focus is on math.
- Michelle emphasized that the teachers and staff at Pine Grove have always worked together in these PLCs, now they just have an allocated time.

DAC update:

- DAC is currently focused on presenting information about the MLO to the district schools and community.
- Encouraging schools to have conversations about their UIPs
- Focusing on DAC to SAC relationships and parent communication loop

Voting on open positions:

- With two board positions open, Laura moved to approve the new board member positions:
 - Lana Taussig: Co-Chair
 - Ben Knopf: Recorder
- Michelle 2nd
- Three voting board members (majority of 5) agreed.
- Thanks to Lana and Ben

Next Meeting dates:

- Wednesday, November 11th, 2026: Data with Matt Reynolds
- Tuesday, February 9th, 2027: Joint PGEA/SAC meeting to review Budget
- Wednesday, April 7th, 2027: Safety
- SAC meeting adjourned: 7:04 PM