

# School Board Advisory Committee Working Group

Update prepared by Jenny Roahen Rizzo, Chair \* February 19, 2025 \* [Members](#) & [Charge](#)

## Progress to date (first 4 meetings)

- Laid the foundation
  - Established rapport and positive group dynamic
  - Established norms of collaboration
  - Deepened understanding of the Working Group charge
  - Deepened familiarity with the Strategic Plan
  - Developed understanding of the purpose and structure of the existing APS advisory groups
  - Established Working Group's aspirations for the process outcomes:
    - Enhance advisory group collaboration opportunities
    - Simplify & streamline process for advisory groups
    - Better tie advisory groups to Strategic Priorities
    - Create effective framework that provides useful and positive feedback from advisory groups that is acted upon
    - Benefit the APS community
  - Identified value-add potential of advisory groups:
    - **Curated, thoughtful, intentional input** from community and stakeholders
    - **Timely** input
    - Diverse perspectives (diverse both in terms of a **variety of perspectives** and **under-heard voices**)
    - Additional/supplemental **expertise**
    - Government **transparency**
    - **Collaboration** between board liaison, staff liaison, chair
    - **Communicate** APS initiatives to the community
    - Advance **Strategic Plan** objectives
- **Assessed the status quo**
  - Assessed the existing advisory groups' alignment with the priorities and performance objectives in the Strategic Plan
  - Identified strengths, limitations, and challenges with the current advisory group structure
- **Looked at outside examples**
  - Reviewed purpose & charge of advisory groups from neighboring districts and a sampling of districts in other regions that, along with APS, are members of the Minority Student Achievement Network (MSAN)<sup>1</sup>
- **Brainstormed options** for advisory group structures ➡ Narrowed options to two

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<sup>1</sup> MSAN districts have student populations between 3,000 and 33,000 and are most often located in first-ring suburbs or small/mid-size cities.

### Option A

Advisory Group	Primary Strategic Plan Priorities
Academic	-Student Academic
Health & Wellness	-Student Well-Being -Operational
ASEAC	-Student Academic -Student Well-Being
Title 1	-Student Academic -Student Well-Being -Partnerships
Personnel	-Workforce
Operations	-Operations, including Facilities
Partnerships	-Partnerships

\*The Working Group is still discussing whether Budget would be (a) an 8th stand-alone group, (b) part of the Operations group, or (c) embedded in each of the groups.

### Option B

Advisory Group	Primary Strategic Plan Priorities
Students	-Student Academic -Student Well-Being
ASEAC	-Student Academic -Student Well-Being
Personnel	-Workforce
Operations	-Operations

\*The Working Group is still discussing whether Budget and/or Facilities would be stand-alone groups (individual or combined) or embedded in each of the groups.

\*Partnerships would be embedded in each of the groups.

### Near-term next steps

- Evaluate top two options given Working Group members' and Board's goals for advisory groups
- Identify preferred option
- Develop charge, expectations, membership, etc. for each proposed advisory group in the preferred option
- Share with existing APS Advisory committees for feedback and broader APS community (April-May)