

Advanced Academics and Talent Development Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 27, 2025

Attendees:

Co-Chairs: John Schaus and Mary Wierzbicki

Secretary: Amanda Miesionczek

APS Staff: Cheryl McCullough

Committee Members:

Dr. Deanna D Caputo

Dr. Natalie Goldring

Friederike Niepmann

Brindis Ochoa

Andrea Hansen Phillips

Community Members:

Shannon Taylor

Denise Daniel

Meeting began: 7:07 pm

- Introductions (5 mins)
- Approval of September Meeting Minutes (1 min)
- APS School Board Subcommittee Working Group Update (5 mins)
 - AATDAC and Math Advisory Committee members held a call with Jonathan Turrisi on October 14, 2025 to provide input on the working group proposal
- SEPTA Update (5 mins)
 - SEPTA will conduct a survey on access to intensified/AP/IB courses, results expected in December
- Discussion: potential focus areas for this year (1 hour 27 mins)
 - Background on recommendations
 - Budget neutral or cost-saving
 - Short-term and long-term
 - Present to ACTL January/February, then to school board work session
 - Topics discussed
 - Data to request from APS (clustering, Your Voice Matters results, enrollment)
 - Implementation of APS advanced academics -
 - Communication with families
 - Educational technology implementation - adaptive with student growth
 - Principal accountability, school action plans

- Options for high school students (expand IB offerings)
- Access to intensified/AP/IB courses for students with disabilities and English learners - resources for co-taught sections
- Discussion to continue at November meeting

Meeting adjourned 8:50 pm