

**Prince William County
Public Schools**

**Superintendent's Advisory
Council on Instruction**

Annual Report

2024-25 Academic Year

Adopted by the
Superintendent's Advisory Council on Instruction
May 8, 2025

Contents

Introduction.....	3
Organization of the Council.....	3
Functions of the Council.....	4
Guiding Principles	4
Topics of the Council for the 2024-25 Academic Year	5
Commendations	5
PWCS Strategic Plan- PWCS Vision 2025: Launching Thriving Futures	6
Learning and Achievement for All	6
Positive Climate and Culture	7
Family and Community Engagement	8
Organizational Coherence.....	8
Topics of Interest for the 2025-26 Academic Year.....	9
Appendix I: 2024-25 Council Membership	10
Staff Facilitator: Dr. Ashley Cramp, Director of Student Learning.....	10
Elected Officers	10
School Representatives and Alternates	10
Elementary Schools	10
Middle Schools	15
High Schools.....	16
At-Large Representatives—None.....	17
Appendix II: 2024-25 Yearly Agenda	18

Introduction

Each year, the Superintendent's Advisory Council on Instruction (the Council) submits an annual report to the Superintendent of Schools. This report:

- Documents the Council's activities during the school year.
- Provides the Council's commendations, recommendations, and views on issues for consideration.
- Serves as a source of information for local School Advisory Councils, parent organizations, community groups, and local school administrators.

The annual report is part of the Council's ongoing communication strategy to share Council activities, ideas, commendations, and recommendations with the Superintendent, administrators, individual School Advisory Councils, and the community at large.

Organization of the Council

The Council was established in the Fall of 1996 to promote communication between the Office of Teaching and Learning (previously the Office of Instruction, Office of Student Learning and Accountability, Office of Student Learning) and parent representatives from each of the schools in Prince William County School Division (the division). The Council provides advice/recommendations from parents and members of the community on curriculum and instructional program planning to the Division Superintendent. The Council is the only divisionwide parent advisory body whose membership includes a representative from each school.

Council membership is comprised of Individual School Representatives:

- Parent or guardian representatives from each Prince William County Public School who are also members of their respective school advisory councils.
- Individual School Representatives must have at least one student enrolled in the school they represent.
- Individual School Representatives include both "primary" and "alternate" members.
- Throughout the report, the term "parent(s)" shall be construed to mean parent(s) and/or guardian(s).

Council membership may also include At-Large Representatives:

- Representatives from business, civic, citizen groups or organizations or other stakeholders of Prince William County as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.
- At-large representatives may or may not have students enrolled in Prince William County Public Schools.

All members of the Council are appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Superintendent.

For the 2024-2025 Academic Year, the Council was comprised solely of Individual School Representatives from each of the schools in the division, with 92 of 99 schools represented at one or more Council meetings. See Appendix I for a complete membership list.

The Executive Committee is elected by the Council membership. The Council Chair is elected by the general membership and is assisted by five Vice Chairs (3 from Elementary Schools, 1 from Middle School, and 1 from High School). The Vice Chairs are elected by the school representatives from their respective levels. The Executive Committee also includes a secretary elected from the general membership. The Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning serves as the Council's chief advisor and appoints a member of his/her staff to serve as the Council's facilitator.

The Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning, the Council's facilitator, and the Council Chair developed a schedule of meetings for the 2024-25 Academic Year. See Appendix II for the 2024-25 Yearly Agenda.

The Council's bylaws, yearly agenda, meeting agendas, and meeting minutes for the year—as well as presentations from speakers—appear on the Council's webpage on the pwcs.edu website.

Functions of the Council

The primary function of the Council is that of an advisory body but may also include that of an advocacy group for curriculum and instructional programs and initiatives. To fulfill these functions, the Council has the following responsibilities:

- Review the curriculum, instructional programs, and instructional priorities of the school division.
- Provide guidance for improving, expanding, and implementing curriculum and instructional initiatives.
- Communicate information on current programs, new initiatives, and implementation strategies to parents, guardians, students, and organizations within the school community.
- Represent their school or constituent community's interests to the Council.

The Council accomplishes these responsibilities through the following actions:

- Reviewing the instructional plan of the Office of Teaching and Learning and its proposed implementation.
- Reviewing the school division budget.
- Reviewing the current curriculum and instructional priorities to aid in the determination of divisionwide initiatives.
- Evaluating divisionwide needs and priorities.
- Reviewing strategies for meeting divisionwide needs and implementing new programs.
- Providing information, as needed, on current priorities, new initiatives, and implementation strategies to parents, guardians, students, other members of organizations within the school community, and other advisory groups.
- Fulfilling other responsibilities as requested by the division Superintendent.

Guiding Principles

Since its inception in 1996, the Council has adhered to seven guiding principles:

1. The school division should maintain high academic standards, continuity in applying those standards within every school and to every student, and consistency in

implementing standards and initiatives throughout the school division from kindergarten through grade 12.

2. For any new curriculum or instructional initiative, there must be a corresponding professional development component.
3. The use of technology should be appropriately incorporated into instruction.
4. Each new curriculum or instructional initiative must include an evaluation component; and once the initiative has been implemented, there must be a comprehensive, ongoing evaluation of its effectiveness.
5. Communication must include listening and responding to achieve a well-informed and involved school community.
6. The school division should incorporate a streamlined process to collect, store, and exchange information and best practices.
7. The education of all students—regardless of economic condition, disabilities, learning requirements, English proficiency, or cultural and ethnic background—is the duty of all members of the school division: administrators, faculty, and staff have a joint responsibility to help all students succeed.

Topics of the Council for the 2024-25 Academic Year

Throughout the year, the Council received presentations on topics related to instructional practices throughout the division. The Council received presentations on the *PWCS Vision 2025: Launching Thriving Futures* (the PWCS Strategic Plan); Instructional Shifts, Virginia Literacy Act, and Assessments; Multi-Tiered Systems of Support; Mental Health Supports for Students; Supports for Teachers; Budget; Capital Improvement Program; and Family and Community Engagement.

In preparation for this report, the Council was asked to consider the presentations that were provided and to reflect on any additional questions, concerns, or commendations. Council members considered the views, priorities, and needs of the individual schools and advisory councils represented. The Council identified areas of commendation to highlight the people, programs, and practices that improve PWCS. The writing committee reviewed feedback on the topics covered this year and organized the report to align with the framework of the PWCS Strategic Plan.

Commendations

The Council wishes to commend the amazing teachers, staff, and administration of our division and their leadership in providing an outstanding education for our Prince William County students during this school year. There have been many challenges navigating instruction and addressing the students' academic and social-emotional needs. The Council wishes to recognize these efforts and express our appreciation for the dedication of so many throughout the school division. The Council would like to acknowledge specific areas of school division excellence. The Council urges the continued use of the cited programs and/or policies by the school division and the requisite funding to support such efforts.

The Council would like to highlight:

- Emphasis of parents as partners and the expectation of all schools having a school advisory council and representation on the Superintendent's Advisory Council on Instruction
- Emphasis on student safety and emotional wellness
- The strategic plan and data driven decisions
- Specialty programs
- Providing students with specific, individualized support
- All students having the opportunity to take national exams such as the SAT and ACT
- Trade programs being integrated and not stigmatized
- Summer discovery program
- Gifted program expanded to every school with a full-time teacher
- Transparency of the Capital Improvement Plan and the emphasis on HVAC systems
- Greater emphasis on dual enrollment opportunities

PWCS Strategic Plan- PWCS Vision 2025: Launching Thriving Futures

In February 2022, the division adopted *PWCS Vision 2025: Launching Thriving Futures*. This plan identifies the Vision for PWCS, which states that "Every student will graduate on time with the knowledge, skills, and habits of mind necessary to create a thriving future for themselves and their community." The mission is to "serve as trusted partners in education with our students, families, and community; prepare our students to be critical thinkers, responsible digital citizens, innovators and visionaries, resilient individuals, and global collaborators; and to commit to inclusive practices and equity with an expectation of excellence from every student and employee every day."

This plan identifies the core values of equity, inclusivity, innovation, integrity, resiliency, and well-being as the framework for the PWCS Strategic Plan. This plan is built upon the following key commitments that the school division is making to all students, families, and the community: Learning and Achievement for All, Positive Climate and Culture, Family and Community Engagement, and Organizational Coherence. Within each commitment, the PWCS Strategic Plan identifies objectives, goals, and strategies to which the School Division is aspiring to achieve by 2025.

Feedback on topics covered by the Council this year has been organized within the structure of the identified commitments of the PWCS Strategic Plan.

Learning and Achievement for All

The commitment for Learning and Achievement for All represents the promise to provide academic excellence for all. This includes providing equitable opportunities to all students to achieve at all levels, preparing students for post-secondary education and the workforce, and preparing all staff members to support and challenge all students.

This year, the Council received a presentation on instructional shifts, the Virginia Literacy Act, and a summary of assessments.

The Council identified the following in relation to the presentation:

- SACI members felt well informed by this presentation, and the information was valuable and important to know and understand. We recommend the division explore ways to share this on a broader scale with all parents/guardians.
- The council recognizes the need for time for teachers to learn and plan for the changes and updates. It is important the division and schools continue to provide time and support to teachers with these instructional shifts.
- The Council recognizes that there is a process for families to request specific information on student test performance. We recommend the division to continue communication with schools and families about these practices.
- The Council looks forward to the revised grading policy and the opportunity to provide input on upcoming regulations.

The Council identified the following additional comments and requests in relation to Learning and Achievement for All:

- The Council seeks additional information on the school division's efforts to meet the needs of ALL learners, including how the school division is ensuring that high achieving student needs are met. The council would like more specific information on how the division continues to explore additional service models/options (advisory, non-advanced courses, etc.) for high school students and how the division continues to encourage student participation, removal of barriers, and parent engagement. The council would also like information about how services are evaluated annually.
- The Council seeks additional information about instructional practices such as 7 steps and the 5E model for science instruction.

Positive Climate and Culture

The commitment for Positive Climate and Culture is the promise to provide a welcoming, supportive, and safe environment for teaching and learning. This includes providing an environment which fosters inclusivity and connectedness and encourages social and emotional wellness. PWCS students and staff will feel supported and have a strong sense of belonging. The facilities will be welcoming, safe, and sustainable.

This year, the Council received presentations on Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), mental health supports for students and supports for teachers.

The Council identified the following in relation to the presentations:

- The Council recognizes the division is working to effectively and positively manage student behaviors and ensure consistency for discipline across schools. The Council remains concerned about the students whose education is being impacted by the misbehavior of others and requests more information about steps taken to support these students.
- The Council also encourages the division to continue to provide all teachers with support regarding best practices for classroom management and to provide additional support for year 1-3 teachers.

The Council identified the following additional comments or requests in relation to Positive Climate and Culture:

- The council recognizes the division provides multiple supports to new and experienced teachers. We request more information about additional support provided to Participate and other year 1-3 teachers.
- The Council requests information on how to find the instructional curriculum, including the mental health/social-emotional learning curriculum.

Family and Community Engagement

The commitment to Family and Community Engagement represents building collaborative, meaningful partnerships to foster the success of all students. PWCS will engage families as authentic partners in education, work with community agencies and business partnerships, and ensure honest, transparent, and two-way communication with families, schools, and the community.

In relation to Family and Community Engagement, the Council received presentations on School Advisory Councils and the new guidelines for highly effective advisory councils and updates on the work of parent liaisons and FACES representatives.

The Council identified the following in relation to the presentations:

- The Council recognizes the efforts to increase consistency of school advisory councils throughout the division. The Council requests a continued focus on the implementation of advisory councils as a priority. The Council also requests additional training and support on advisory councils for both school administration and participants.
- As shared in the SACI 2023-2024 Annual Report; to help support Family and Community Engagement, the Council continues to recommend a parent resource landing page with information on expectations and tools needed to support students' education. The page could include information, tutorials, and asynchronous training on all applications and technical tools utilized by the school division to support education. This page could also serve as a list of relevant links and systems. Each school should mirror or link to this information on their school websites, highlighting or including additional information that may be specific to the school. (ie: Parent University) This site can also be shared at Back-to-School nights and other events.

Organizational Coherence

The commitment to Organizational Coherence strives to align the entire school division as one team, united in a singular commitment to support all schools, students, and families. This includes creating systematic structures for continuous improvement, removing barriers for communication to facilitate collaboration across the school division, ensuring our strategic priorities are driving our investments, and working towards convergence as a unified school system with shared accountability for school and division goals.

The Council received presentations on the Academic Year 2025-26 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan.

The Council identified the following in relation to the presentations:

- The Council requests to be informed of any local budget impact due to federal and local funding changes.
- The Council requests to be informed on current and future mitigations to balance enrollment at schools.
- The Council requests clarification of the per pupil funding model, especially for economically disadvantaged, English language learners, gifted, and special education.

Topics of Interest for the 2025-26 Academic Year

During the report-writing process, Council members identified additional possible topics to be discussed during the 2025-26 academic year:

- Better understanding of the family life curriculum
- Dual enrollment
- Impacts of technology on instruction
 - How is the division navigating AI?
 - How is the division balancing technology/digital tools and hands-on instruction?
 - How does technology support or hinder the sharing of assessments and results with students and parents?
 - How are we protecting students' safety while using technology?
- Supports for special populations of students
 - Gifted
 - Special Education
 - EL learners
 - Economically Disadvantaged
- Grading policy and regulation feedback and updates
- Updates from VDOE, curriculum, assessment, etc.

Appendix I: 2024-25 Council Membership

Appendix I represents registered membership and is not necessarily a reflection of meeting attendance.

Staff Facilitator: Dr. Ashley Cramp, Director of Student Learning

Elected Officers

Vanessa Olson <i>Chairman</i> (Leesylvania ES)	
Natasha Caulder <i>Secretary</i> (Saunders MS)	Christy Weeden <i>Elementary School Vice- Ms. Gudinas</i> (Piney Branch ES)
Matt Martinez <i>Elementary School Vice Chair- Mr. Erickson</i> (Montclair ES)	Lexi Lopez <i>Elementary School Vice Chair- Ms. Werle</i> (Neabsco ES)
Charla Walker <i>Middle School Vice Chair- Ms. Porter-Lucas and Mr. Harris</i> (River Oaks ES)	Claudia Smith <i>High School Vice Chair- Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Hood</i> (Colgan HS)

School Representatives and Alternates

Elementary Schools

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Alvey Elementary	LaShawna Norman	
Antietam Elementary	Mark Sparlin	
Ashland Elementary	Susana Steudle	
Bel Air Elementary		

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Belmont Elementary	Lynette Simmons	
Bennett Elementary	Alex Kosik	Elicia Wright
Bristow Run Elementary	Katherine Danziger	
Buckland Mills Elementary	Will Soublo	
Cedar Point Elementary	Lori Betz	Kelly Machovec
Chris Yung Elementary	Allison Griffin	
Coles Elementary	Bre Jacoby	
Covington-Harper	Alexandra Vann	Napoleon Praxton
Dale City Elementary	Maria Salgado Garcia	
Dumfries Elementary	Tracy Tomkins	
Ellis Elementary	Kenneth Nixon Jr	
Enterprise Elementary	Charla Walker	
Featherstone Elementary	Diana Blandon	
Fitzgerald Elementary	Olivia Lopez-Saxton	
Glenkirk Elementary	Cher Muzyk	Mindy Warmbrunn
Gravelly Elementary	Amy Rhoades	

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Haymarket Elementary	Brian Johnson	
Henderson Elementary	Brandon Bowman	Shelene Veyan
Innovation Elementary	April Meredith	
Jenkins Elementary	Katie Rubach	
Kerrydale Elementary	Vivian Ocampo	Edwin Santos
Kilby Elementary	Jessica Hoover	Laure Aidonoughbo
Kyle Wilson Elementary	Maya Claros	
Lake Ridge Elementary	Brian Murray	
Leesylvania Elementary	Vanessa Olson	
Loch Lomond Elementary	Katerine Estrada	Maria Vargas
Marshall Elementary	Kate Rossi	
Martin Luther King, Jr. Elementary	Trica Miles	
Marumscos Hills Elementary	Elizabeth White	
Mary Williams Elementary	Lauren May	Dr. Rynata Leach
McAuliffe Elementary	Amanda Suazo	

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Minnieville Elementary	Karen Mejos	
Montclair Elementary	Matt Martinez	
Mountain View Elementary	Abiodun Oyebanjo	
Mullen Elementary	Sarah Naeem	Adam Nadeau
Neabsco Elementary	Lexi Lopez	Deshawna Vickers
Occoquan Elementary	Brittany Robertson	Darren Robertson
Old Bridge Elementary	Anna Beck	
Pattie Elementary	Natasha Caulder	Audrey Shutte
Penn Elementary	Feruzza Abduazimova	
Piney Branch Elementary	Christy Weeden	
Potomac View Elementary	Maricela Henriquez Canas	
River Oaks Elementary	LaShonda Black	
Rockledge Elementary	Meredith Upchurch	Melissa Simpson
Rosa Parks Elementary	Diana Miller	

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Signal Hill Elementary	Katie Bendl	
Sinclair Elementary	Natasha Marks	Maimouna Diallo
Springwoods Elementary	Duncan Torkornoo	Kate Finnern
Sudley Elementary	Meredith Leutbecker	
Swans Creek Elementary	Ruth Whitton	
T. Clay Wood Elementary	Jonathan Podkowka	Ada Armstrong
Triangle Elementary	Leslie Pope	
Tyler Elementary	Joshua Rabinowitz	
Vaughan Elementary	Krystal Franco	
Victory Elementary	Correa Brady	
West Gate Elementary	Misty Whitehead	
Westridge Elementary	Melissa Perez	
Yorkshire Elementary	Manal Zarou	Ashley Biallas
Woodbine Preschool		

Middle Schools

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Benton Middle	Claudia Smith	Vanessa Olson
Beville Middle	Rusneisha Taylor	Yiesha Thompson
Bull Run Middle	Caroline Dickens	
Fred Lynn Middle	Meera Komitsky	Cristina Castellon
Gainesville Middle	Becca Young	Amanda Scholl
Graham Park Middle	Shaunte Gray	
Hampton Middle	Shiona Bullock	
Lake Ridge Middle	Aurora Hurtado	
Marsteller Middle	Rhea Nesbitt	
Mary G. Porter Traditional School	Kari Dinarte	
Parkside Middle	Kary Jones	
Pennington Traditional	Mariana Walls	Christina Berrang
Potomac Middle	Adrea Kelly	

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Potomac Shores	Deshia Holmes	
Reagan Middle		
Rippon Middle	Vanessa Hunter-Sims	
Saunders Middle	Malcom Hawkins	Tina Atkins
The Nokesville School	Melissa Godwin	
Unity Braxton	Emil El-Ayazra	
Woodbridge Middle	Star Demery	

High Schools

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Battlefield High	Aysegul Atwood	
Brentsville District High	Jennifer Pereira	
Charles Colgan Sr. High	Claudia Smith	Kelli O'Loughlin
Forest Park High	Angela McKelvey	Vanessa Olson
Freedom High	Suzanne Fisher	
Gainesville High	Tinette Chandler-Kinsel	

School	Primary Representative	Alternate Representative
Gar-Field High	Erika Frazier	
Hylton High	Tara Houston	Michael Houston
Osbourn Park High	Adrianna Berk	Tonya Mills
Patriot High	Marianne McGee	Ivan McGee
Potomac High	Nicole Chamblin	
Unity Reed High	Emil El-Ayazra	
Woodbridge High	Star Demery	Sarah Honaker
Governors School at Innovation Park	Maryann Carter	
Independence Non-Traditional	Ben Roe	Carla Roe
PACE West	Deborah Richardson	

At-Large Representatives—None

Appendix II: 2024-25 Yearly Agenda

SUPERINTENDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON INSTRUCTION

2024-25 Yearly Agenda

October 10, 2024	Welcome and Introductions
KLC, 1101	Standard of Excellence – School Advisory Councils Kimberly Werle, Associate Superintendent, Eastern Elementary Schools
	Orientation for Members Ms. Vanessa Olson, Chair SACI
	New Business- Subcommittee work- Update from Calendar discussion, Best Practices Conference
November 14, 2024	Welcome
KLC, 1101	Ms. Vanessa Olson, Chair SACI
	PWCS State of the Schools Dr. Stephanie Soliven, Associate Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Mr. Tim Neall, Director Research, Accountability and Strategic Planning
	Work Session Ms. Vanessa Olson, Chair SACI
December 12, 2024	Welcome - Ms. Vanessa Olson, Chair SACI
Independence Nontraditional School	Overview of Student Learning Dr. Ashley Cramp, Director of Student Learning
	Work Session MTSS: Overview of academic and behavioral supports through MTSS Mental Health Supports: Student telehealth program and other supports for students Mrs. Vanessa Olson, Chair, SACI
January 9, 2025	Meeting was canceled due to inclement weather.

February 13, 2025

KLC, 1101

Welcome & Business

Mrs. Vanessa Olson, Chair, SACI

January Topics: Brief Overview and Q&A

MTSS

Dr. Darwin Barker, Director, Tiered Intervention and Supports

Desmond Dawkins, Supervisor, Tiered Intervention and Supports

Health Supports

Dr. Kala Goodwine, Director, Student Health and Wellness

Anthony Clark, Supervisor of School Social Workers

Human Resources—Teacher Retention & Supports

Dr. Matt Wygal, Supervisor of Employee Relations

Family Engagement

Yanet Boyd, Supervisor of Family and Community Engagement

Work Session

Budget and Capital Improvement Plan

Mrs. Vanessa Olson, Chair, SACI

March 13, 2025

KLC, 1011

Welcome & Business

Mrs. Vanessa Olson, Chair, SACI

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Vern Bock, Chief Operating Officer

Budget

Shakeel Yusuf, Chief Financial Officer

Bylaw Review

Mrs. Vanessa Olson, Chair, SACI

April 10, 2025

KLC, 1011

Welcome, Business & Approve Bylaws

Brief Connect and Q & A

Dr. LaTanya D. McDade, Superintendent Advisory Council on Instruction

Work Session

Report Writing & Vote on Topics for the Annual Report

Mrs. Vanessa Olson, Chair, SACI

May 8, 2025

KLC, 1011

Report Adoption

Elections

End-of-Year Survey