

PK Yonge School Advisory Council

9/8/2026 Meeting Minutes

In Attendance

- Members: Carrie Geiger, Ashley Pennypacker Hill, Megan Miller, Marisa Stukey, Dicy Watson, Mo Deel Coleman, Monica Webb, Cory Tomlinson, Meryl Klein, Jan Merritt, Rob Cox, Lori Dassa, Jay Campbell, Ella, Lilah
- Guests: Emily Eubanks, Megan Koppitch, Tredina Sheppard, Jorelle Deegan

Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 5:33 by Marisa
- Quorum established
- Review of April 14 meeting minutes with QR code
 - Minutes approved without changes
- Review of September agenda and highlighted following changes: under chair updates confirmation of officers and voting, under new business adding outdoor spaces, SG moved up on agenda

Updates

Chair Updates - Dr. Marisa Stukey

- SAC Membership Update:
 - Mo & Corey said yes to another 2 year term
 - Megan Webber's term is until 2027 and incorrectly printed on the handout
- Confirmation of Officers
 - Chair and co-chair maintained
 - Secretary voting: Monica Webb sole candidate - no opposition, motion passed
- Membership Training
 - Training is available on the website and is a requirement of all voting members.

Student Government Updates – Jay Morant, 26-27 Student Body Pres

- SG Committees:
 - Communication

- School-wide SGA Outreach
- Policy Committee
- Staff Appreciation
- Athletics Pep Rallies
- Club Showcase - multiple opportunities including at Back to School
- Homecoming Court - Homecoming is Sept 21-26
- Homecoming Dance - Theme: Night in Athens
- Homecoming Parade - **Need:** SG is in need of cars for the parade, preferably trucks and convertibles. Don't worry, the car owner would drive it.
- Onboarding - preparing new SG members
- Coming Up:
 - Switch committees every 9 weeks and will include the following committees
 - School-wide SGA Outreach
 - Policy Committee
 - Athletics Pep Rally - Oct 3rd is first one
 - Winter Events:
 - Boo Grams
 - Deck the Halls
 - Winter Spirit Week
- Questions: none

Director Updates - Dr. Geiger

- Gym construction update: Projected to be complete March 2nd. Move in when we come back after spring break. Between the completion and returning from Spring Break, we'll have the ribbon cutting and other events. After move-in we immediately demo the old gym.
 - Demo project requires some ADA changes between the old gym and football field. Including new steps and a new ramp. New restrooms for the field as the current ones will be demolished with the old gym.
- Summer Project: Some repairs are needed to the bridge on campus. Repairs are scheduled to occur over the summer.
- Funding for the cafeteria: Originally designed for 900 children, the cafeteria currently serves 1500. Legislation allocation is required for this project. There will be more information as this project moves forward.
- Open Positions: Building services and part-time driver positions are posted at Careers at UF website. Please share with others.
- Many research opportunities are coming up, including:

- AI grant which will result in a new partnership
- Adolescent health project for seniors
- Visitors: PK continues to attract many visitors as partnerships develop. We will have visitors throughout the school year from various international countries, schools, and programs. FAMU will be visiting Friday.
- Accolades: PKY is the #1 HS in North Central FL and #24 in the state. We are the highest ranked lab school in the state and have much to be proud of.
- Enrollment: Enrollment was high this year as we kept students who often leave for magnet programs. This is a testament to the academically rigorous program we provide.
- Sunshades Project: The shades on the elementary patio are happening. The surveys are being completed and they are finalizing plans. May affect a few lunch days and require students to eat elsewhere, but there will be long-term benefits to having shade.

Principals' Updates

Secondary Updates - Ashley Pennypacker Hill

- School year started
- Club showcase: Over 45 clubs! New this year was a directory SG created that has been useful for club recruitment.
- Sports are up and running.
- Fall play auditions have occurred. There will be two plays this fall: Clue and Almost May
- FAST PM1 testing has been completed.
- Retakes for grad requirement exams are occurring
- Many admissions counselors have been visiting
- Peer tutoring is up and running
 - New 9th grade offering: Holding space for peer tutors to visit 9th grade wing and host study hall. So far very appreciated.
- Study Hall is available M-F. Students should not be wandering campus. New additions of 6th and 7th grade study halls on Wednesday.
- Back to School Night is Wednesday and Thursday of this week. New is the club showcase for families to see available options. Clubs that are full will not be present.

Elementary Updates - Dicy Watson

- Off to a great start. A few new faculty and staff, including a new tutoring position

- FAST PM1 testing starts this Thursday
- New Clubs: Roots and Shoots, Geo literacy, Newspaper
- Pre-K: Exploratory 2 will be added which includes science and art.
- Professional Learning for faculty has started on Wednesday afternoons.
- SG applications being accepted and starting soon for the elementary grades.
- Filming is occurring for exemplary teaching, student teacher interviews, and professional learning.

Faculty Presentations

- None

Faculty Policy Council Update – Megan Miller, 26-27 FPC Chair

- Has not started yet, meets next week

PTO Update – Jorelle Deegan, 26-27 PTO President

- First official year as president, welcome!
- Back to School: welcome back support was a success with 56 hours of service completed! Welcome back breakfast was well appreciated. Donations were provided by Sonic.
- Teacher Mini Grant applications are being updated
- PTO will table tomorrow and Thursday at Back to School night, including additional info sessions during elementary open house. There are many ways for parents to be involved!
- First Meeting is October 8th

New Business

- Activity Fees Update - Carrier Geiger
 - Shifting funds after the end of the last academic year. Minor changes in highlighted categories.
 - Potential revenue increased due to enrollment not decreasing.
- Accreditation - Carrier Geiger
 - Executive summary has been completed and shared.
 - Survey data will be collected. Notifications will be sent out. We need at least an 80 percent response rate for highest level. Various populations including students, staff, and families will be asked to complete surveys.
- Outdoor spaces - Meryl Klein

- Developed plans from the feedback from students, faculty, and staff. Began implementing plan in 2023. Many outdoor spaces are being used, especially in elementary. Some have lesson plans developed by the teachers.
- **Ask:** SG and Clubs to support enhancing some of the spaces. Lots of opportunities.
- **Idea:** Create a repository of lesson plans or examples of how the spaces are being used.
- **Encouraging:** Get outside as the weather cools. Reach out to Meryl to discuss opportunities.
- Thank you Emily for keeping up the tree tour!
- **Idea:** We used to have morning mile that was mapped out. That map can be used for training, professional development, clubs, etc.
- Also working on a document about the history of these places and the future.
- SG has two beautification days. They have club council where leaders discuss opportunities. Areas are identified and coordinated approach is planned. Helps connect clubs together and give back effectively.
- Do we still have a connection with bird feed? Unsure, Meryl will check
- School Safety - Carrier Geiger
 - Post-Parkland, School Hardening grant allows us to update safety features
 - Most recently: aggressive speed bumps, additional fencing, additional card access readers, all classrooms got new locks, shades on windows of computer labs for lockdowns, shades on door windows coming soon.
 - Most recent assessment: Building numbers needed in elementary buildings. About 30 of our 78 security cameras are up for a refresh.
 - Hopes for the future: Coasting engineering property used to belong to PK and we're working on gaining the property back. This would involve gaining back buildings and site being prepped for expansion of gym and physical education. Once that property is secured, additional safety such as fencing will occur.
 - Meryl: The property is identified as a natural area and encouraged integration into the design to encourage outdoor space use.
 - Processes around threat management are very serious. A portal requires information to be entered. Last year we had 10 potential threats. 9 were unsubstantiated.
 - We follow a regular drill schedule. Including an active assailant drill within first 10 days of school. Parents are informed of drills.
 - If students have a medical episode we need to shelter in place due to HIPAA. Notifications are sent to parents.

- Marisa suggested sending the “why” in a director update to better communicate to parents who may be concerned.
- Academic Achievement Updates - Tredina Sheppard, Assistant Principal of Academic Achievement
 - Admissions officers have been visiting, Furman is coming on Thursday.
 - College and Career Fairs will continue. Both on and off campus, with trips. One trip to the Carolinas in March. Applications open this week for Juniors. End of May, beginning of June there will be a Boston trip.
 - Educational foundation partnerships continue
 - SF Achieve will continue to be on campus on Thursday
 - Career Connections Center will be here for back to school nights. Will connect back to college and career courses.
 - Going Gator will be back this year to share about liberal arts college and discussion of transfer process
 - Tutor Advantage allows access to Khan Academy. They will be present for Back to School Nights.
 - Test Prep: waiting for funding to offer SAT test prep
 - College & Career Access Hub includes resources and partnerships such as admission officer videos and newsletters that go out monthly.
 - Open to feedback: only one response to survey last year. Use the newsletter or the Hub to provide feedback.
 - Putting together a team to continue the college and career initiative and bring further support.
 - Resource on Hub for questions for students and families to ask of admission officers and visiting schools.
- Library updates - Megan Koppitch, Media Specialist
 - Order has been placed and shared.
 - The library card program partnership is occurring again with the public library
 - Donations accepted. Information is on the website but will push out information again with various groups and channels.
 - Library month is April - It's a good opportunity for a book drive after Spring Break.
 - Can't keep “The Summer I Turned Pretty” on the shelf. Please donate.
- Wayfinders - Megan Miller
 - Completed third summer of the program. Similar to SAIL but extended to rising 4th through rising 7th and has been extending further. Students are invited to return and PM data has identified the need for additional support.
 - This past summer had nearly 60 kids.

- Partnership with Lastinger Center. Teacher training and implementation of innovative techniques.
- Data collected shows big successes and gains for students in the program.
- Wayfinders provides literacy with real world experiences and includes trips. Application of real strategies they can use in the classroom. The Three Marjories were discussed this summer with appropriate day trips for each author.
- This year kids created podcasts. Eighth graders also collected stories from PKY alum.
- **Idea:** Wayfinders reunion proposed to see State of Wonder dance performance about Majorie Stoneman Douglas in April. It includes a tap-dancing manatee.

PKY Community Discussion

- Floor open for community members, no discussions

2026-2027 Meeting Dates

- November 10
- February 9
- April 13

Meeting adjourned at 6:42 pm by Marisa