

Faiss Middle School
School Organizational Team
Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2026, 4:00 p.m.

The Faiss Middle School Organizational Team (SOT) meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m. on January 12, 2026, at Faiss Middle School, with a simultaneous online option available.

Voting Members Present:

Eric Schumacher, Parent
Tori Sadiki, Parent
Lacy Sullivan, Parent (Google Meet)
Erica Romero, Parent
Nichole Brewer-Gentry, Teacher/Behavior Strategist
Terri Romaniello, Teacher/Learning Strategist
Teuta Zeka, Teacher
Renaye Barnes, Support Professional/Office Manager (Google Meet)
Roger West, Principal

Absent members:

Briana Jenkins, Parent

Non-voting Members Present:

Kara Nieland, Community Member
Adeline Chaney, Student Representative
Audrina, Student Representative (Google Meet)

Faiss Middle School Administration:

Roger West, Principal
Joseph Vespo, Assistant Principal
Shirley Cunningham, Assistant Principal

Agenda Items

1.0 Welcome and Roll Call

Ms. Brewer-Gentry confirmed attendance and called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m. All members introduced themselves. Ms. Jenkins was not present. Parent members Erica Romero and Eric Schumacher were present. Lacy Sullivan and Renaye Barnes attended virtually. Student representatives Adeline Chaney and Audrina Quiñones-Gancenía were present.

2.0 New Items

2.1 School Plan of Operation

Presentation by Faiss MS staff and discussion by SOT members regarding the status check for the School Performance Plan. Mr. West and Ms. Cunningham presented an update on the School Performance Plan (SPP) using MAP Growth data.

Mathematics

- The schoolwide math proficiency goal was 44%, with current proficiency at 32%
- 6th-grade math proficiency was reported at 37%
- Mr. West explained that 7th-grade results were the lowest due to the departure of two teachers, resulting in instructional disruption
- Fall MAP data showed a 10% drop at the start of the school year
- Winter MAP scores demonstrated improvement, leading to a discussion about setting a more realistic spring goal

Mr. West shared that MAP will be replaced by i-Ready beginning next school year and that students are currently completing the i-Ready Diagnostic.

Motion: Adjust the Spring Math proficiency goal to 40%

Motion by: Terri Romaniello

Second by: Tori Sadiki

Vote: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote

Reading

- The Spring Reading goal remains 50%, with current performance at 45%
- No changes were proposed to the reading goal

Adult Learning Culture & Equity Data

Ms. Cunningham reported that, as of December 15, the Adult Learning Culture goal stood at 47%, with progress shared via *Faiss Facts*.

Disproportionality data identified two student groups of concern:

- Black/African American students: 20.7%
- Male students: 11.82%

Ms. Brewer-Gentry shared that this work aligns with the **Tiered Fidelity Inventory (TFI)** plan and ongoing **PBIS** efforts. Development of the **PBIS Behavior Matrix** and teacher training were discussed as strategies to address these disparities.

2.2 School Plan of Operation

Update from Faiss MS staff regarding the budget timeline for the 2026–2027 school year

Mr. West provided an overview of the budget development timeline:

- Preview budget: January 20, 2026
- Final budget: February 15, 2026

He explained that Faiss operates at approximately 86% funding, which is lower than that of many schools, and that internal adjustments may be required based on enrollment and staffing needs. Mr. West emphasized that the school remains fiscally stable and that all budget decisions will be communicated transparently.

3.0 General Discussion

3.1 School Updates

Faiss MS Administration updates

Mr. West shared schoolwide updates, including:

- Peace Week is scheduled for the following week
- Spirit activities, including Tie-Dye Day
- The SBAC testing calendar has been finalized

Mr. Vespo provided facilities and athletics updates:

- The camera upgrade project is ongoing with no disruption to campus operations
- The campus remains in good condition
- Athletics are midway through the season, with a challenging start

3.2 ASSESSMENT PLANNING: Faiss MS staff will share future assessment testing schedules. (WIDA, NAEP, SBAC)

Future assessment testing schedules

Ms. Cunningham reported:

WIDA testing preparation has begun, with practice sessions underway

Mr. West added:

- NAEP testing scheduled for February 3, 2026
- 40 students were randomly selected, including students with IEPs
- Coordination continues with feeder elementary schools for 5th-grade registration
- Amazing Shake is scheduled for January 26, 2026
- Spelling Bee: Our student advanced to the next level

Ms. Brewer-Gentry confirmed alignment of the assessment calendar and invited questions. None were raised.

3.3 AGENDA PLANNING. Discussion on items for future agendas

Ms. Cunningham identified budgeting as a priority topic for the next meeting.

Future Meetings

Motion: Change the next SOT meeting date to February 2, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.

Motion by: Terri Romaniello

Second by: Eric Schumacher

Vote: Motion passed unanimously by voice vote

4.0 Information

No additional information was requested or provided.

5.0 Public Comment Period

No public comments were presented.

6.0 Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Roger West and seconded by Terri Romaniello. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

The next SOT meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 2, 2026, at 4:00 p.m., at Faiss Middle School, with a Google Meet option available.