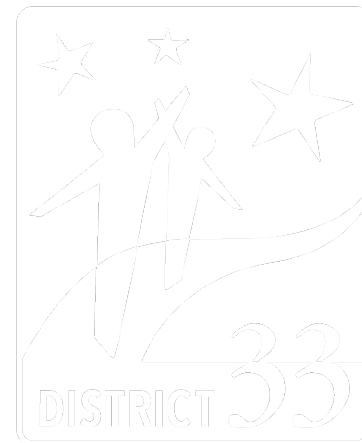


Opportunities for Staff Influence

West Chicago Elementary School District 33



WEST CHICAGO
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOLS



Why is Staff Influence important?

Staff influence is important as it directly influences the climate and culture of the school and district. We measure this by looking at 2 areas on the 5 Essentials Survey - Effective Leaders and Collaborative Teachers.

5 Essentials Area and Measure	2022 Score	2023 Score	2024 Score	2025 Score	2026 Score	2027 Target
Effective Leaders	34	45	44	59	61	60
● Teacher Influence	38	41	44	65	64	60
Collaborative Teachers	26	40	44	60	57	60
● Collaborative Practices	19	31	51	66	62	60



District Committees

PreK Academic Leadership Council

Lea Pizinger

Talking Points:

The PreK ALC met on Monday, August 31st, for our first meeting of the school year.

- The PreK ALC reviewed the committee's purpose.
- We reviewed and came to a consensus on the [bylaws](#) that mirror those of elementary and middle school.
- We reviewed PreK 5Essentials Data, specifically on Program Coherence. The ALC will be responsible for monitoring the 5 Essentials Data and creating an action plan to improve in this area.
- We reviewed the [PreK Program Guide](#), which is preschool-specific and helps to define the terms "program" and "special program" for the 5Essentials Survey. We will share this guide with staff again before they take the survey later this school year.
- We reviewed the measures for Teaching Strategies Gold and continued the conversation about the measures we will utilize for the 26-27 school year. The team had a second meeting this afternoon to solidify the measures. More information will be sent out to staff on the selected measures after our training on Tuesday.

Next Meeting/Event: October 1st from 3:45-5:15.

Elementary Academic Leadership Council

Lea Pizinger

Talking Points:

The Elementary ALC met for our first meeting of the year on September 22nd. Please see the Talking Points below:

- We reviewed the new strategic plan and our district's academic goals.
- We recommended changes to the ALC bylaws.
- T&L provided updates on the Subject Area Committee work from the summer.
- We reviewed the Program Guide and definitions of programs and brainstormed further ways to improve program coherence on the 5Essentials Survey. Our goal is to achieve a "strong" score of 60 in Program Coherence across the district.
- We agreed on the processes and structures for the curriculum validation survey. T&L will send information via email.
- The committee discussed the need to add STEM to the long-range plan to begin Subject Area Committee work for the new special that will be added to the master schedule in the Fall of 2027. The committee **did not reach** a consensus on adding STEM to the long-range plan. We will bring this back to the committee to discuss further at our October ALC meeting.

Next Meeting/Event: October 27th from 3:55-4:55

Leman Academic Leadership Council

Lea Pizinger

Talking Points:

The Leman ALC met for our first meeting of the year on September 22nd. Please see the Talking Points below:

- We reviewed the new strategic plan and our building goals.
- We recommended changes to the ALC bylaws.
- T&L provided updates on the Subject Area Committee work from summer.
- We reviewed the Program Guide and definitions of programs at LMS and brainstormed further ways to improve program coherence on the 5Essentials Survey. Our goal is to achieve a "strong" score of 60 in Program Coherence across the district.
- The team came to a consensus to approve three updates to the long-range plan.
 - Advanced Spanish will align our units to the high school Spanish for Native Speakers 1 course.
 - Mariachi will be added as a separate content area on the long-range plan.
 - A&E was removed as a stand-alone line on the plan.
- We agreed on the processes and structures for the curriculum validation survey. T&L will send information via email.
- We agreed to use the validation survey moving forward and T&L can update the contents as needed.

Next Meeting/Event: October 27th from 2:55-3:55

Facility Committee

Fred Cadena

Talking Points:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Next Meeting/Event: 10/28/26 First meeting

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:

Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)

Kristina Davis and Sarah Burnett

Talking Points:

1. FAC reviewed the recent ALC meeting and the district long range plan. STEM would be a specials class starting the 27-28 school year and would be an extension of the science curriculum.
2. STEM SAC will wait to start until ALC makes a decision on how STEM will look on the long range plan.
3. Our next steps will be to meet with the STEM teachers as well as the Elementary ALC to provide clarity on the long-range plan and the process for developing and writing the curriculum.

Next Meeting/Event: October 15, 2026

Finance Committee

Karen Apostoli

Talking Points:

- 1. Discussed the financial reports from the 9/17/26 Board of Education meeting.**
- 2. We discussed the new (free & confidential) financial literacy employee benefit coming soon. Watch for an email from FinPath.**
- 3. We looked at a spreadsheet detailing furniture in storage throughout the district. This spreadsheet will eventually be shared with staff via the Staff Intranet. Staff will be able to use the included Request Form for furniture needs.**

Next Meeting/Event: 10/20/2026

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update: Improving the process for the use of existing furniture throughout the district.

Insurance Committee

Sarah Burnett & Karen Apostoli

Talking Points:

1. We discussed the annual Utilization Analysis Report for 6/1/25 - 5/31/26. This report is used by Blue Cross Blue Shield as data for our 2027 insurance renewal. Some key data points:
 - Inpatient paid (per member) increased by 39.7%
 - Outpatient paid (per member) decreased by 12.5%
 - Professional (doctors) paid (per member) increased by 7.9%
 - Pharmacy paid (per member) increased by 23.2%
 - Emergency Room visits paid (per member) increased by 36.5%; total ER visits increased by 25.6%

1. The Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO
 - \$4,369,077.23 paid by the district and staff in premiums
 - \$5,303,862.54 in bills paid by Blue Cross Blue Shield
 - Loss Ratio of 121.4%

1. The Blue Cross Blue Shield HMO
 - \$5,596,979 paid by the district and staff in premiums
 - \$3,276,381 in bills paid by Blue Cross Blue Shield
 - Loss Ratio of 58.5% PLUS an additional 35% for monthly payments to doctors that participate in the HMO, for a total Loss Ratio of 93.5%

1. The PPO Plan is the driver behind our renewal costs. The initial renewal quote came in at an increase of 18%.

Next Meeting/Event: October 21, 2026

MTSS Committee

Cathy Park

Talking Points:

1. The committee set goals for the upcoming school year for the committee.
2. The committee reviewed the [MTSS Hub](#) of resources. This site can be used to find all necessary MTSS documents throughout the year.
3. The team also reviewed the [MTSS flowcharts](#) that were created last year to help when looking at specific scenarios during data day.
4. This month, LMS shared a strategy to use with attendance support called Check and Connect.
5. The committee reviewed how Data Day went at each of the buildings - shared celebrations, reviewed systems, and processes with the data decision rules.
6. The committee reviewed BST and Behavior Data Day documents for each building.

Next Meeting/Event: October 7

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update: Talked about goals for the year

Special Education Committee

Krissy Goebbert

Talking Points:

1. Student Services now has department goals related to the new Strategic Plan. They relate to student growth, process improvement, and increasing student safety through behavior supports.
2. We discussed positives and suggested improvements for our current processes (found in the Intranet and Special Education handbook). This will be an ongoing conversation throughout the year for our process improvement goal.
3. Updates to handbooks and procedures will be communicated via talking points and through SST, to continue fostering clear communication across the district for our department.
4. We began reviewing the IEP service delivery decision guide and began discussions for how this could look for D33. This conversation will continue in October.

Next Meeting/Event: October 13th from 3:45-5:15

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update: Identified areas to focus on this year.

The background of the slide is a solid dark blue. In the upper left corner, there are two curved, overlapping lines that sweep across the top of the slide. The inner line is a lighter shade of blue, and the outer line is a slightly darker shade of blue.

Parent Advisory Councils

Black Talented and Gifted Group (BTAGG)

Cathy Park & Tiffany Posey

Talking Points:

1. Planned Meet and Greet Event for 9/29
2. We will start with a Lemman Student Focus Group to listen to students and gather feedback.

Next Meeting/Event: September 29 @ 6:00 pm (Meet and Greet Family Event)

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update: This committee is aligned to Goal 2 to provide opportunities for student engagement and involved in each of the schools.

FEAT: Family Engagement Action Team

Sarah Norton

Talking Points:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Next Meeting/Event: First Meeting is October 7th

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:

Wellness Committee

Sarah Norton

Talking Points:

1. Working to increase participation and recruitment of members
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

Next Meeting/Event: November 4th, 2026

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:



Thank you!

