Opportunities for Staff Influence

West Chicago Elementary School District 33

Reach Higher
ACHIEVE TOGETHER

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 Academic Leadership Council (ALC) met yesterday. Please see the Talking points from the meeting below:

- The ALC received an update on the work being carried out by the Subject Area Committee. The team will review the first 6-week unit of Creative Curriculum, along with the first UBD unit to determine which unit is preferred for next fall. We will give feedback to SAC after our next meeting.
- We reviewed the GOLD objectives and assessment timeline. Specific directions will be given about EL students and how to turn on the EL objectives. Cathy will send out an all-staff email regarding this.
- We reviewed the language allocation for the full day and half day and made adjustments. This will be shared on 10/23.
- The Subject Area Committee will receive training on the Creative Curriculum this fall to inform their committee work. All staff will receive training in the Creative Curriculum on 2/26.
- Our next Academic Leadership Council meeting is on December 2nd.

Next Meeting/Event: December 2 from 12:30-3:30

Classified Action Team (CAT)

Sarah Burnett and Krissy Goebbert

Talking Points:

We are working on recruiting representatives from all buildings for this team. We are hopeful that we can have the appropriate representatives in order to start meeting in January 2027.

Next Meeting/Event: TBD

Facility Committee

Fred Cadena

Talking Points:

1. Facility Plan overview for new committee members. We started by walking our newest members through the Facility Plan: its purpose, how projects are prioritized, and how the committee's work fits into the bigger picture.

2. Recap of last summer's work. We reviewed what was completed over the summer.

3. Where we are today, we looked at the current status of our projects and where projects needing attention stand.

4. Looking ahead. At our next meeting, we'll begin solidifying the priorities and projects for the next couple of years.

Next Meeting/Event:11/16/26

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update: Incident IQ is being piloted at ESC and seems to be working great.

Faculty Advisory Committee (FAC)

Kristina Davis and Sarah Burnett

Talking Points:

1. In response to the public comment made by ETAWC at the October 1st Board of Education meeting, it was decided at the monthly ETAWC President's meeting, that the topic of factors that are contributing to teachers feeling overwhelmed with their workload would be discussed at the FAC meeting the following day.
2. During FAC, three non-negotiables were communicated by the district:

- 1. Getting at least 65% of students to the 65th percentile within the next 5 years.
- 2. Lowering the variance in Tier 1 instruction so that there is consistency across the district.
- 3. Communication with parents so that parents are informed of their child's behavior and academic levels.

3. A chart was made to capture the feedback from FAC regarding factors that are contributing to teachers feeling overwhelmed with their workload. At the next FAC meeting, we will brainstorm possible solutions.

Next Meeting/Event: December 10, 2026

Finance Committee

Karen Apostoli

Talking Points:

1. We reviewed and discussed the financial reports from the 10/15/26 Board of Education meeting.
2. Briefly discussed a future Financial Dashboard for the district website.
3. Discussed feedback from the FinPath Webinar and reviewed the staff survey for educational opportunities.
4. Viewed the 2025 Levy Presentation in preparation for this year's levy.

Next Meeting/Event: 12/01/2026

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

Grading Committee

Cathy Park

Talking Points:

1. The Grading Committee met today to discuss two different grading systems: standards-based grading and traditional grading (or letter grades)
2. We also discussed what was beneficial about each grading system in our district and the benefits of both systems.
3. At our next meeting, we will work to develop a grading philosophy for the district to help guide the rest of our work and future decisions. We are also working to build a district grading handbook.

Next Meeting/Event: December 3, 2026

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:

We are looking to align grading practices district wide and have a handbook outlining grading policies.

MTSS Committee

Cathy Park

Talking Points:

1. The committee looked at how EL PtP is calculated and how the district will monitor student progress in this area.
2. The committee will be working on three subcommittees to strengthen our MTSS work this year:
   a. What does transition look like from preschool to kindergarten and 5th to 6th grade in terms of intervention support
   b. Look at Tier 2 expectations
   c. What to do after Tier 3 - leading up to opening up a domain for a student

Next Meeting/Event: December 9

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

Elementary Performing Arts Review Committee

Cathy Park

Talking Points:

1. We reviewed elementary band and orchestra programming in other districts and when students start in each instrumental music program.
2. We started to brainstorm options of what programming can look like.
3. At our next meeting, we will review the brainstormed options to discuss pros and cons.

Next Meeting/Event: November 19 , 2026

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update: This is aligned with goal 2 and providing students with the opportunities to participate in extra curricular activities in music.

Special Education Committee

Krissy Goebbert

Talking Points:

The Special Education Committee (SEC) met on October 13 and discussed the following:

- Service Delivery Decision Guide: Members reviewed the first two parts of this guide, including push-in vs. pull-out and more consistent service minutes across the district. The team found it useful and agreed it can be adapted to our needs.
- Student Services Staff Intranet: Members explored the intranet, which is designed for Student Services Department members. Positive areas and areas for improvement were identified.
- Para Process: Now that all buildings are using the new process, we have identified some steps and guidelines that need further clarification.

Next Meeting/Event: November 17 from 3:45-5:15

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

Technology Committee

Niko Bubaris

Talking Points:

1. We reviewed the committee's purpose and established norms.
2. We identified priorities for the year: staff technology training, a digital tool approval process, student accountability, and digital citizenship.
3. We discussed a Google Form for digital tool requests and criteria for reviewing instructional value, student data privacy, cost, and compatibility with district systems.
4. We discussed supporting staff with existing technology through training, troubleshooting tips, and quick reference guides.

Next Meeting/Event:November 11, 2026

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update: We began developing a digital tool request and approval process.

Parent Advisory Councils

A&E Parent Advisory Council (A&E PAC)

Cathy Park

Talking Points:

1. We reviewed and developed goals for the school year.
2. We reviewed the A&E handbook to see if there were any questions.
3. We started to plan for the family event in March.
4. We are going to have student focus groups in the winter as well as a short survey to our elementary students to get feedback about the family event and how we can support them at school.

Next Meeting/Event: December 2

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:

Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC)

Janet Ayala

Talking Points:

1. Welcome and introductions of parents and teachers new to the group
2. Reviewed the purpose of BPAC
3. Discussed Parent Academies for this school year as a result of their feedback
4. December 10th to review Title III and EL-EBF

Next Meeting/Event:

October 28th to review Title III and EL-EBF

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:

Strategy 1: Create clear, consistent, and culturally responsive communication systems that encourage all families to stay informed, share feedback, and engage in their child's school experience.

Black Talented and Gifted Group (BTAGG)

Cathy Park & Tiffany Posey

Talking Points:

1. We reviewed how the first kick off event went and ways we can improve attendance.
2. For the next event, we will look to personally invite families to the event by building.
3. We will work to meet with Leman students about how we can better support them at school.

Next Meeting/Event: December 9, 2026

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. Committee members reviewed the purpose of the committee
2. Group developed a definition of what a strong school / parent partnership looks like, sounds like and feels like
3. Group will help recruit more D33 parents for the next meeting

Next Meeting/Event: First Meeting is November 9th (VIRTUAL)

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:

Wellness Committee

Sarah Norton

Talking Points:

1. Reviewed the requirements for IL Wellness Committees
2. Presentation on 2026 IL Youth Survey Data Results from DuPage County Health Dept.
3. Group discussion and review of committee work fo the year
4.

Next Meeting/Event: January 6th, 2027

Strategic Management Process Improvement Update:

DISTRICT 33

Thank you!



