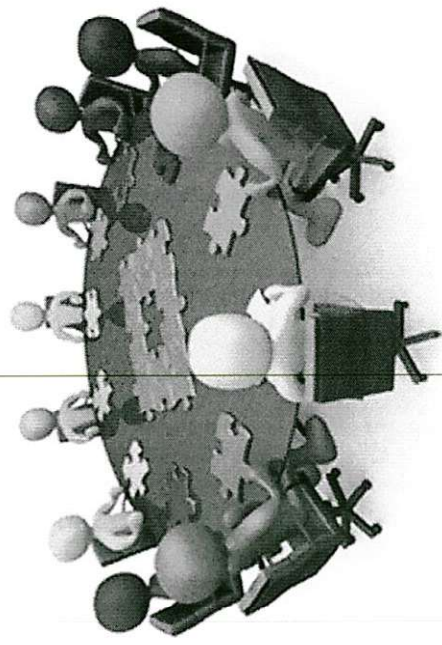


SCHOOL ADVISORY FORUM

SAF Meeting
January 6, 2026
Lloyd Estates Elementary

Andrew Rifkin, SAF Chair



AGENDA

- Updates from North Area Advisory Meeting
- Old Business
- New Business
- Q&A

SAF Report by Mr. Andrew Rifkin

The following points were discussed at the North Region Advisory meeting held in November:

1. The State desires some under enrolled public schools to share spaces with charter schools.
2. The State is reviewing an education plan dubbed the Heritage Foundation which is operated by private educators and hopes that this initiative will be implemented into the public school system.
3. He read a letter written by two former public-school teachers who are now parents outlined the emphasis on testing rather than teaching.

DRAFT

Lloyd Estates SAF Update Summary

Meeting Date: December 18, 2025

Location: Monarch High School

Presented by: Mr. Andrew Rifkin SAF Chair

District Budget & Staffing Updates

- The district is facing significant funding losses, resulting in a districtwide budget freeze.
- Impacts include:
 - Limits on staff travel and field trips
 - Restrictions on filling staff vacancies
 - Exploration of position reductions through attrition
- District leaders stated the goal is to minimize impact on students and that school safety should not be affected.

Student Services & Staffing Concerns

- Ongoing concerns were discussed regarding **shortages of school psychologists and social workers**, which can delay:
 - Student evaluations
 - Support services
 - 504 plan updates
- After discussion, the issue was referred to an **Elementary Subcommittee** for further review and data collection before advancing any districtwide action.

Elementary Instruction & Testing

- Members raised concerns about:
 - **Limited planning time for elementary teachers**
 - **Restrictive district testing windows**, which can lead to rushed instruction, increased stress, and disruptions to learning and school activities
 - District staff shared that principals have some flexibility within testing windows and emphasized the importance of school culture and communication to reduce student anxiety.
 - A motion related to testing windows was withdrawn to allow further discussion at the **Elementary Subcommittee** level.
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Student Safety & Health

- A school raised concerns about PA system coverage, noting students could not hear emergency announcements in all areas.
- Schools were advised to continue escalating safety concerns through Facilities and District Safety.
- Ongoing concerns were shared about clinic procedures when a school nurse is not present, reinforcing previous advocacy for a nurse in every school and the need for clear clinic protocols.

Student Obligations & Parent Communication

- Parents expressed concern that **student financial obligations** (library books, lunch charges, materials) are **not consistently visible in FOCUS**.

Motion PASSED:

- The district must ensure **student obligations are visible in FOCUS**
- Parents must be notified using their **preferred communication method**
- District shared updates on lunch charges, noting:
 - Students will not have meals taken away
 - Communication about balances has been confusing and inconsistent
 - Improvements are planned, but challenges remain

SAC / School Funding

- SAC and Accountability funding continues to be an area of concern.
- Members emphasized:
 - Need for **clear guidance on allowable uses**
 - Better communication with principals and SACs
 - Advocacy to ensure funds are used for **student needs**, including materials and supports

Elementary Redefining Updates

- Several elementary school consolidations and boundary changes were discussed at the district level.
 - No North Area elementary schools were approved for closure during this cycle, but concerns remain about future boundary reviews and under-enrollment.
 - Members stressed the importance of community involvement, transparency, and long-term planning.
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