

DURBIN CREEK SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Meeting minutes for Tuesday, January 13, 2026

Start: 4:06 PM End: 4:38 PM

Recorder: Dara Giddings, SAC member and parent

**Welcome and Call to Order:** Meeting started at 4:06 PM

**Approval of December Minutes:** Update from district that at least 50% of members must be attending in person in order to vote or approve motions.

**Grade Level Reports:**

**Pre-K** – unfortunately could not attend.

**Kindergarten** – Katie Candamio: Word families and blending CVC words. Working on Fact Families and related equations. Snowball fight with Marshmallows. 100<sup>th</sup> Day on Friday, January 23. And field trip coming up to JCA to see Goldilocks on February 26.

**First Grade** – Annie Turner – Independence skills, problem solving. Phonics we are working on Blends and then will be working on vowel teams. Math place value with 10's and 1's. Writing we are working on opinion writing. Social studies we are focused on MLK Jr Day and science is stars and suns. Will be sending out information soon about 120<sup>th</sup> day of school.

**Second Grade** – Jean Kepner: Reading focusing on Text Features. Math we just finished talking about money. Telling time with analog vs digital. Will periodically ask them what time it is. Social Studies, also working on MLK Jr, and kindness, and caring, and positivity of life. On campus field trip coming up Alligator Farm; 2 sessions for 45 minutes each on January 27 and February 9. Forms are due by January 21. Gifted screener is complete and information has been sent home.

**Third Grade** – Just finished FAST PM2 for ELA and Math. So proud of the growth of our students. ELA – non fiction texts and central ideas. We will soon be moving into Author's Clam and Authors Purpose. Math we will be subtracting multidigit numbers and then will be doing 1 step and 2 step word problems using all 4 orders of operations. Science we are working on Animal classifications and facts. Social studies we will be moving into the Midwest region. We have also touched on MLK Jr day.

**Fourth Grade** – Karen Chris – Finishing PM2; ELA was last week and Math is Thursday. We will also have a lot of emphasis on Writing this quarter as that test is coming in April. Reading we are working on Fiction and Tall Tales. Math we have started on fractions with adding and subtracting fractions with denominators. Big news for us is NASA on February 11. Also trying to get a program with Scientist in Every Classroom. Learn your multiplication facts!

**Fifth Grade** –Lindsay Mentzer – Cannon: Also did PM2 ELA and have Math on Friday. We are also focusing on writing in our ELA classes. We are going through the FAST rubric of scoring so students have an idea of what their end goal is. Really trying to help them take ownership of their writing. We are also

focusing on Fiction standards in ELA and spiraling skills with a one page writing sample for each piece. Social studies we are working on colonial settlements and 13 colonies. Math we are working on adding and subtracting fractions with like and unlike denominators. We had science test on solar system and universe today. Field Trip on March 12 to Islands of Adventures.

**Resource** – Julie Stimson – Art is finishing Weaving, will be getting ready for their art show in April. Media K-2 is reading SSYRA JR books, 4-6 is getting ready for battle of the Books for students who qualified by reading 10+ SSYRA books. STEM is working on Architecture projects and coding. Music – Mrs. Romero

**Principal's Report:** I'm sorry that Pre-K could not attend today, we did add a stand-alone Pre-K class. We do still have limited spots for next year and use a lottery program, and the application for next year is opening soon.

I feel like every time we get together its testing! Our staff is doing an excellent job getting through all of that. Our kids have worked so, so hard and have shown a lot of perseverance.

Our current enrollment is 1095 today and there are still a few enrollments in the queue.

One of our focuses going into the second semester is attendance. We really want to make sure that families know that the amount of instruction lost when there are absences is tremendous. We know there are lots of illnesses and life circumstances, but we really want to make sure that every day adds up to your family's success.

Once all testing is done, we will dig down into that data and talk about every single kid in the grade level. Please feel confident in your teachers because we really do pin down to every student to try and do what is best for them.

PBIS Update – before break we started a challenge in the Oasis but Kindergarten has rocked the cafeteria and won a pizza party. They worked so hard! That doesn't mean other grades did not take it seriously, but Kindergarten took it very seriously. Next we are going to focus on our Bus Behaviors, because we have been seeing an uptick in behavior issues on the bus.

There is a Dance coming up on February 21. One of our most fun PTO Events. So please talk to your family and try to plan to come out. I will be out of town, but our new Assistance Principal Miss Pietre will be there.

Congratulations to our Fifth-Grade class on their first service project, a Community Book Box. We are pretty excited for everything they are working on. They are currently doing a Penny Challenge, and it is a very competitive environment out there.

**Questions/Comments:** none

**SAC Meeting Date:** February 10, 2026

**Adjournment:** 4:38 PM

**Motion:** Jeannie Kepner

**Second:** Dara Giddings

**Members Present:**

**In person:** Erica Warwick, Allie Wright, Dara Giddings, Karen Chris, Jeannie Kepner, Katie Candamio, Annie Turner, Julie Stimson, Ashley McCormick

**Virtual:** Lindsay Mentzer, Jenelle Dunathan, Indra Reddy, Elizabeth Teelon, Christian Settler