

Tamalpais High School Site Council
Wednesday November 15, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance: *Sophia Ferro, Darla Deme, Luc Chamberlain, Grace Becker, Avi Perkoff, Theo Koffman, J.C. Farr, Alyssa Sandner, Michelle Muir, Suzi Andrews*

Guests: *Elaine Wilkinson (Tam High Foundation); Jim; T.K. Dahlke (Tam High Leadership); Hannah Wright (Tam High Wellness Center)*

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 3:02 p.m. by Chair Michelle Muir

Approval of Agenda & Meeting Minutes: *Motion to approve agenda; motion carries. Minutes from meeting of October 25, 2017 approved as written.*

Public Comment:

(Elaine)– just finished mini-grant season. Mini grant requests have a limit of \$12,5000 per request. Awarded \$150,000 in mini-grants. Major grant request due in February and will be awarded in March.

(Jim) – will install new seating area near music area. Designs submitted by architecture students. Marin Outdoor Art Club donated \$1,750.00 toward project; lumber donated and milled by volunteers in Tam High shop. Will likely finish by winter break, with opening ceremony afterward.

Drugs, Alcohol & Wellness (Hannah Wright): Developing avenues for prevention and intervention. For prevention, curriculum in 9th grade Social Issues classes, Peer Resource events, Tobacco Use Prevention & Education (TUPE), and partnership with Mill Valley Aware. For intervention, youth-court inspired workshops for first-time offenders, intervention sessions, 1:1 mental health counseling, referral to Huckleberry Youth Program, and YMCA Youth Corps and other restorative justice models. Student Theo Koffman mentioned that there needs to be more communication as to the importance of these programs to both students and parents. Group discussed ways to improve.

Homework Policy (T.K. Dahlke): T.K. presented a student survey on the effects of homework on stress levels and anxiety. To combat these symptoms, T.K. proposed that the school implement a No Homework Weekend or a No Homework Monday. Possible one per semester. These could/should be combined with messages about what to do instead to promote wellness, such as family dinners, movies, time with friends, etc. Modeled after Marin Academy's program. Group was generally in favor, but will continue to research possible implementation.

Principal's Report (J.C. Farr): Discussion put over to next meeting. In preparation, J.C. handed out several documents for group to review prior to next meeting. Since this WASC is not a full review with forma parent/teacher/student participation, will do a schoolwide survey. In addition, school will consider safety plan and review because of recent events.

Student Report (Theo and Avi): Students report that parking continues to be an issue. Students asked school to consider replacing bathroom paper towel dispensers with air dryers. Teachers caution that some air dryers can increase bacteria. Avi will do some research and report back to group with a proposal.

Teacher Report (Luc, Grace, and Alyssa): TUPE training to roll out with Peer Resource events, pulling in the Social Issues classes. Parking is still an issue. Can staff spots be assigned? Darla Deme also reports issues with parking.

Parent Report (Michelle, Sophia, and Suzi): Question of whether school start time can be changed to 9:00 a.m. Darla pointed out that teachers must vote on the bell schedule as part of their contract this year. Seems like there is more stress with the senior class this year. Perhaps due to two new advisors and a new college counselor. Parents feel there is a low level of awareness as to resources available. Hard to find on website. Michelle to look into having a button added to front page of website and maybe opening counseling wing and Wellness Center on future back-to-school nights.

Announcements: Next meeting Wednesday December 13, 2017 from 3:00-4:30 in Room 2020.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzi Andrews
Recording Secretary