

**Tamalpais High School Site Council**  
**Wednesday September 26, 2018**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Members in Attendance:** *J.C. Farr, Grace Backer, Luc Chamberlin, Alyssa Sandner, Ben Cleaveland, Carol Craft, Suzi Andrews, Michelle Muir, Matt Wulfstat, Chris Adams, Sonia Saltzman, Tessa Pares*

**Guests:** *Elaine Wilkinson, Corbett Elsen, Emily Uhlhorn*

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**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Michelle Muir

**Approval of Agenda & Meeting Minutes:** *Motion* to approve agenda; motion carries. Minutes from May 2018 and June 2018 meetings approved as written.

**Public Comment:** Elaine Wilkinson from Tam High Foundation reviewed fundraising efforts and mini-grant requests. Although amount of funds raised so far is as expected, participation is down. Suggestion made to message heavily to freshman families.

**Election of Officers:** *Motion* to elect the following slate of officers to serve for the 2018-2019 school year: Chair Suzi Andrews, Vice Chair Matt Wulfstat, Secretary for first 3 meetings Ben Cleaveland; motion carries. Unanimously approved.

**District Budget and Finance Update (Corbett Elsen):** The group heard from Corbett Elsen, CFO for the Tam Union High School District. Mr. Elsen's presentation included information on the current budget shortfalls, cost reductions already taken, funding sources, and possible fiscal scenarios. Takeaway is that district will be operating at a yearly budget deficit of \$8 million. Measure J has the potential to bring in approximately \$5 million in funds for four years, which would decrease the cost-savings required to \$3 million per year. Mr. Elsen's full presentation can be viewed on the TUHSD website.

**Measure J Campaign Information (Emily Uhlhorn):** Measure J is a parcel tax measure in the amount of \$149.00 per parcel for four years. Senior and lower income exemptions included. Only about 20% of eligible voters have kids in a TUHSD school. Need funds and volunteers to get the messaging out to those voters who do not. Emily suggests that campaign can use perspective pieces from teachers about how budget issues will affect the classrooms. Grace will circulate an email to teachers for input and get back to Emily.

**Principal's Report (J.C. Farr):** J.C. invited Grace to update the group on AVID. Grace reports that AVID, which seeks to support the kids in the middle, is now in 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> grades. Will be training more teachers in AVID strategies. Teacher report that the new cell phone policy seems to be working. Teachers have cell phone caddies in classrooms where students put phones for the duration of class. Teachers are seeing more interaction between students which is increasing the sense of community. J.C. handed out the "School Site Council Cheat Sheet," which sets forth site council goals for the year. J.C. mention that the group might discuss an updated dress code and reconsider allowing 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> off campus for lunches, among other topics.

**Teacher Report:** Ben suggests that district look at the art department budget, which hasn't been increased since 2003. Teachers also report that the science department budget was cut by 25% for the start of the year.

**Student Report:** Homecoming rally on Friday. This year, funds collected from homecoming events will go into grade level accounts.

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Suzi Andrews*

Recording Secretary