

**Tamalpais High School Site Council**  
**Wednesday November 28, 2018**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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

**Guests:** Elaine Wilkinson, Margie Brindley, David Wetzel

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**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Suzi Andrews

**Approval of Agenda & Meeting Minutes:** *Motion* to approve agenda; motion carries.

**Public Comment:** Elaine Wilkinson from Tam High Foundation shared updates on the passage of Measure J. She also mentioned that the Major Grant application deadline would be pushed back in order to coordinate with site budget planning and TUHSD budget updates.

**Math Department Overview (presented by Math Dept. teachers Margie Bridley & David Wetzel)**

When math testing data comes up what is the backstory? SBAC testing is one snapshot of junior year math readiness, and the test covers three years of math curriculum. Juniors who take the test may still be working on Algebra 1 or an upper level math course, so scores come from a broad spectrum of levels. Where students are in their math level when they enter Tam impacts their readiness for success on the SBAC. SBAC doesn't capture pre-support levels or growth. Students who enter in the lowest math levels should really be tested at 12th grade, when they have had interventions and support. The MLK/Bayside feeder school finally has a credentialed math teacher after 3 years without one, and this has impacted recent scores. Matt asked about some myths and factors impacting student experiences in math classes at Tam. Math teachers would love to participate in a teacher-parent community forum to discuss math myths, and to create positive dialogue. David mentioned how there has been a lot of turn over historically in the Math Dept. and how that was something teachers could not control. Teachers felt it was important to assume math teachers want kids to succeed. There is also much evidence that parents and students are not aware of free math support resources at Tam. These include programs every tutorial, Bridge the Gap, summer math redemption program, and after school math two days a week in the library. One source of success is that Algebra 1 and Geometry teachers all have a common prep to align instruction and strategies. David felt the clearest barometers include the 8th grade diagnostic test and grade rates; progress data and post high school data would be helpful.

**Principal's Report (J.C. Farr):** Good news is that Measure J passed. The \$3 Million structural deficit is still to be addressed and that issue is currently being explored by the L-Cap committee. Community meetings are coming up in January after the final fiscal advisory meeting. This will be followed by a further survey to gather responses to the L-Cap proposals. Cost saving proposals may include incentive packages, as well as 7 period day schedules, with fewer 8th period day student schedules. Good news: SOAR is now at all five district schools and Lori Watson has met with students from each site. AVID Site Team to meet and prepare for Staff Development meeting.

**Teacher Report:** Bell Schedule Committee is preparing vote for later this year. Teachers report the disparity in days between R1 to R3 versus R4 to R6, with the 2nd semester being two weeks longer; request to consider the layout of our grading periods. In the past finals were in January after the Winter Break, which had some drawbacks as well. Teachers shared that they were seeing some low staff morale in the face of the budget issues. Teachers also report that fewer department and teacher meetings are impacting staff communication and cohesion.

**Student Report:** Students report that the new tardy policy and practice days were "good" overall, but there was some concern for students with anxiety who struggle with transitions. They asked that Admin look at that issue and support those students. Freshmen elections are coming up.

**Classified Report:**

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Ben Cleaveland*  
Recording Secretary