

Tamalpais High School Site Council
Wednesday February 27, 2019
Meeting Minutes

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

Guests: Elaine Wilkinson, Wendy Stratton, Tenisha Tate, Ronnie Moore, Risa di Ferrari, Jenny Hodash

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: Public Comment: Elaine Wilkinson from Tam High Foundation shared an update on the successful THF Grants Presentation evening. Staff and teacher grant recipients outlined the highlights and successes associated with their 2018-19 grants. Parents and supporters loved the informative presentations that included student perspectives on the impact of grants.

Mill Valley Parks and Recreation Presentation on Volunteer Opportunities

MVP&R representatives presented a plan to initiate and manage a formalized volunteer partnership with Tam High students. Volunteer Coordinator Ronnie Moore, Community Services Coordinator Jenny Hodash, and Risa de Ferrari from the Community Services Division outlined the numerous opportunities and potential for collaboration. Areas included multimedia, working with senior citizens, mentoring younger kids, and many others. The 6th annual Volunteer Day at the Mill Valley Plaza will be a key opportunity to network with numerous local NGO groups. Luc Chamberlain highlighted the benefits of an outside group taking the lead on management, and thought sharing this with staff would be of interest. It was suggested this might be a great opportunity for late second semester seniors to have meaningful experiences. The representatives stressed that they were equipped to manage the collaboration, and were open to variables and how it might be structured. They envision a four year roll out, to reach 9th to 12th graders.

Community Equity Team Presentation

Tenisha Tate and Wendy Stratton presented a very detailed data dive into student suspensions and the major role suspension play in student achievement. They outlined the disproportionate suspensions for students of color and the factors that impact this data. The role of teachers being the number one factor in student achievement framed a deep discussion on the challenges we face, cultural mismatch, implicit bias, policies preventing progress, and negative expectations. Fifty percent of Tam teachers have been trained in Cultural Courageous Conversations. Challenges and growth areas were discussed as the team explored how we as a community can make a cultural shift with strategic actions.

Principal's Report (J.C. Farr):

J.C. followed up on key aspects of the equity conversation, reminding the team that equity is a lens we "go" through. He outlined the opportunity to look with a critical eye, and reflect on how

our practice impacts students of color disproportionately. J.C. outlined how the budget had been approved by the trustees and teachers had ratified the contract. The contract includes a new cap of 34 students per class and 160 students per five sections. The impact will be a reduction in force and layoffs.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Cleaveland
Recording Secretary