

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

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

Guests: Elaine Wilkinson, Scott Berkestrand, Nikki Pelletier

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

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

Public Comment: Elaine Wilkinson from Tam High Foundation shared updates on the Major Grant Budget for 2019-2020. \$366,000 is available and the Foundation has been spreading the word about the application process to the entire staff, including new staff. The Major Grants presentation will again be in October 2019 in the theater.

Elaine also updated us on the emergency preparedness and the CERT training. The first priority has been identified as educating and communicating essential information, needs, and policies. New posters have been created to be posted in all classrooms, they are clear, up to date, and contain key information. More drills are coming soon, in addition to two lock down drill that have already happened. Some new evacuation policies and protocols are in place that Wendy Stratton will share out. There are also communication apps that the team is looking at to aid in communication and readiness.

Wellness Update with Hannah Wright:

Hannah updated the group on Mindful March and the work of the Wellness Center. Peer Resource and Wellness have been collaborating on presentations around the problem of vaping. Hannah reminded the team that Wellness provides information and support around birth control, suicide prevention, and mindfulness training. One recent highlight was Stress-less Week when Wellness brought in a therapy dog and it was a great success. This past month there was also a peer-led Just Say No workshop for students. Vaping and Substance Update: Restorative justice and added interventions have helped keep suspensions down along with a new approach, seeing a decline in drug and alcohol. Seeing an increase in vaping, students report a mix of grade level use, and a lack of education around the Juul. J.C. mentioned the impact of a social dynamic and the corporate presence and the developing presence that has.

AVID Update:

The AVID team is made up of teachers, Admin, and a counselor, Scott Birkestrand, to whom all the AVID students are assigned. AVID is designed for mid-level students who elect to participate, who are very often the first generation in their family that might attend college. AVID uses resource proven practices. One key cornerstone belief is college readiness for all. AVID students learn to dig deep for understanding and ask questions. Currently AVID is experiencing clear growth and has fifteen 11th graders, twenty-five 10th graders, and twenty-six 9th graders. The students profile includes underrepresented students typically between a 2.0 gpa and 3.5 gpa. Planner management, research strategies, and Cornell notes are other key skills that are developed.

Principal's Report:

J.C. provided a bell schedule update. The teacher's union would need to vote to opt out of the 1-7 schedule, and choose another alternative schedule, or keep the current schedule. Coordination with the City of Mill Valley is a major factor to a later start. J.C. shared the good news that lay-off notices were beginning to be rescinded, some teachers have already been retained. Feel Good Friday planning is underway. April will bring CAST testing and plans are underway for that and to encourage a high participation rate. Global Studies Trips are preparing to leave this week as well.

Teacher's Report

Alyssa reports that the new 10th grade science course "The Living Earth" is coming along in development.

Student Report: Students have a busy week ahead with Tam Unity Day, Rally, and Lip Dub all on Friday. For Tam Unity day and rally events Leadership is reaching out to other clubs and diverse groups such as Wellness, Music, and Peer Resource. Some interest is building in a "School Wide Senate" which could represent groups from all across campus to address school wide decisions and to run decisions by each other. Luc mentioned this had existed before and he encourage those looking at this to give some decision making power to the group. Senior class is asking for donation of gowns for prom.

Classified Report:

The site and district is working on budget development for next year. Seeing lots of job movement, look for that, and we will be ready for the changes but it will take time and training.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Cleaveland
Recording Secretary