

Tamalpais High School Site Council
Wednesday May 22, 2017
Meeting Minutes

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

Guests: Elaine Wilkinson, THF.

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

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

Public Comment: Elaine Wilkinson from Tam High Foundation shared updates on the new THF Board that has been approved. They will have a retreat in late May for the 24 new voting members. All the money the THF fundraises through the end of the year will go to grants for 2019-2020. Message screens are up and working

Student Activities Plan from Principal Farr:

Principal Farr reported out on the development of the Student Activities Plan, their retreat/meeting included representatives from Link Crew, Leadership, SOAR, Admin, Lisa Guiliani, and Carol Craft. Topics included how to increase engagement and how “belonging comes before engagement.” The neediest school populations were discussed. Involvement in athletics, Link, and Leadership were focus points, including who is participating from a cultural lens. Social issues and school climate are coming to the front as key issues. Taking Tam Unity a step further is a clear goal, and looking at the barriers that exist to more kids being involved.

Principal's Report:

May is usually a tough month, but two events stood out as big successes: the May 6 Volunteer Day and the very impactful Breakthrough Day. For Breakthrough Day there have been debrief sessions and a survey. Extremely happy both events were student centered, had clear intentions, and were really thought through.

The School Site Plan is being developed and we will be updating action steps for 2019-2020. J.C. is seeing the need for two hours a month with teacher reps to make implementing the site plan a reality. A tutorial study group is an example of the kind of area to make improvement and growth. Living Earth for sophomores is an example of a positive change reached through collaboration. There are a few weeks to articulate the Site Plan and for the Council to approve it.

Other good news includes the MCF and THF teaming to fund the Mentor Network, led by Angela Hopper. Master schedule is very close and will share soon. Two new counselors will be hired and see a new opportunity to offer “Coffee and Convo” with counselors and students and parents as a vehicle for communication.

Parent Feedback:

Michelle shared observations and concerns regarding Prom and students who may feel left out for so or economic reasons. How can Pprom be more inclusive and welcoming to diverse students. Dinner at school, or Marin Airporter busses from Tam to prom may be ways to include more students in welcome new traditions that are more inclusive, affordable, and appropriate. Positive parent feedback about receiving elective verification and reverse verification for classes. Matt shared an interest in helping support the Wellness aspects of the School Site Plan.

Teacher's Report

Alyssa shared her gratitude and appreciation for the THF Major Grant that helped implement the Living Earth class launch. It had a major impact on offering labs and quality student learning experiences.

Student Report:

Students shared positive reflections on Breakthrough Day and the preparation work for Prom. Good Earth and Whole Foods have donated food for senior BBQ. Yearbooks and Six Flags are on the way.

Classified Report:

Carol reported on Classified being busy wrapping up the year. The union settled their contract and seem pretty happy with the results. Working to make plans for less custodial help as we lost 3.5 custodians.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Cleaveland
Recording Secretary