

**Gunn High School Site Council Meeting  
December 5, 2016  
DRAFT Minutes- corrected**

**Attending:**

<u>Staff Reps</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Parent Reps</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Student Reps</u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Visitors</u>	<u>X</u>
<del>Denise Herrmann</del>		Jane Dick	X	<del>Andrew Dong</del>		Rachel Congress	X
Adriana Aro	X	Ani Gnanlingam	X	Alvin Hom	X	Chris Bell	X
<del>Myesha Compton</del>		<del>Liz Milner</del>		<del>Kathy Liu</del>		Dave Deggeller	X
Darlene Feldstein	X	Jen Schultz	X	Hanna Suh	X	Jack Ballard	X
Yukie Hikida	X	Sunita Verma (alternate)	X	Catherine Wang	X	Heather Schultz James Chung	X X
Deanna Messinger	X					Amanda Chi Amy Gao	X X
Jackie Selfridge	X					Vidhu Navjeevan Carolyn Kuimelis	X X
Toni Smith	X					Jessica Yen	X

Meeting was called to order at 4:05pm by co-chair Yukie Hikida.

**Open Forum**

Parent Heather Schultz had 3 open forum topics:

- 1) Heather expressed appreciation for a teacher who called her just to say that her child was doing well in class.
- 2) Students don't always get to hear broadcast daily announcements, depending on which teacher they have for that period. If they miss the announcements, they miss out on events and opportunities.
- 3) Senior yearbook photos are a burden for some families because of the drive to Los Gatos, and lack of clarity around the no-cost option. Follow up: yearbook and student activities staff are researching to look for improvement opportunities.

**School Improvement Updates**

Jack Ballard (Assistant Principal) and Dave Deggeller (Math Instructional Supervisor) gave an update on the Algebra 1/1A merger, new Math TOSA positions, Common Core in the Math department, and new courses for next year. TOSAs (Teachers on Special Assignment) Rachel Congress and Chris Bell joined for the presentation. ([see presentation here](#))

**Old Business**

Site Council members signed up to evaluate our 2016 grants, with evaluations to be presented at the March and April meetings.

- Document Camera: Toni Smith
- Fiber Arts Embroidery Machine: Deanna Messinger
- Implementing Inquiry-Based and Cooperative Learning: Darlene Feldstein, Jen Schultz, Ani Gnanalingam, Sunita Verma

### **Constituent Group Reports:**

Jen Schultz gave the following updates from the PTSA:

Teacher grant process is complete: \$20,000 was granted to a total of 18 projects. Teacher Appreciation Lunch and Student Appreciation bagel break are coming up. There has been a lot of discussion about the weighted GPA issue.

Jack Ballard gave the Principal's Report for Denise Herrmann. Topics included:

Weighted Grades update: PAUSD board decided that both GPAs (weighted and unweighted) will be reported on transcripts for the 2016-17 school year, and Board will evaluate options moving forward. Site Council consensus was that parents and students are not fully informed. Follow-up: Jack will make request to Denise for appropriate communication/message to go out to parents and students.

SEL/Mentorship/Schedule update: District is building K-12 Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum; State is setting curriculum standards. Gunn is looking into bell schedule options that would accommodate SEL time. Options will be reviewed by stakeholders from all constituent groups. There will be more updates in January.

Toni Smith gave the Teacher Report. Topics included:

Staff is grateful for the Thanksgiving Feast and anticipating the holiday luncheon. Some teachers are wondering about timing of and amount available for Site Council grants. N-building (Math & English departments) are doing a Secret Elf program for the holidays. Math teachers are using some prep times to observe other teachers and then sharing positives they have observed. Teachers are curious about possible new schedules. There is a need for a water bottle refilling station closer to N building. Deanna thanked PTSA for the grant for the drawing tablets.

Alvin Hom gave the Student Report. Topics included:

Students really enjoyed the Turkey Feast and want to thank the PTSA. Ping Pong tournament was a great success last week. Winter Sports Rally recognized all winter sports and included the Ping Pong finals. "Cozy Snowmance" is this week and includes a raffle.

Jen gave the Parent Report. Topics included:

Grading for mastery: Parents perceive a lack of consistency in grading between teachers & classes. Response: increased consistency is part of District goals: first step is common course guides (implemented first semester), now each core subject team is working towards consistent grading scale & system (2nd semester of this year for implementation next year). This is a potential parent education topic (as well as WASC/SPSA, weighted grades).

New attendance policy: The new notification system and formal letters home are causing confusion & stress, especially the automatic notification system, which often sends parents messages in multiple modes (email, voice, text) for the same absence. Is there an opportunity to give feedback to the District about effects, and refinement of communication strategies, and perhaps hear from them (and attendance staff) the reasons behind the shift? Follow-up: invite Attendance & District reps to discuss at a future Site Council meeting.

### **Site Council Business**

Adriana Aro & Jane Dick volunteered to alternate as meeting recorder, with Darlene as back-up; consensus agreed with this approach.

The Budget Update was deferred to January.

There was a Round Robin of meeting attendees.

Alvin moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:25pm.

**Next meeting:** 1/9/17 at 4:00pm in the Staff Lounge