

## YHS / IHS - School Site Council Meeting Minutes

April 21, 2021

### I. Welcome

D. Rogers welcomed the participants in attendance

### II. Called to order 2:37 PM

Quorum not met due to no parent in attendance. Four Yosemite High Leadership students in attendance.

*Meeting will proceed as an informational meeting only; items may not be voted on.*

D. Rogers opened with comments and agenda review.

In attendance: David Rogers (Principal); Erika Azevedo (Teacher); Hou Thao (Teacher); Diana Felix (Classified); and Leadership students: Ashley Ibarra; Kyle Shugrue; Steffan Smith-Arceo; and Samantha Tolbert (Abstain)

#### a. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve as read made by D. Rogers and seconded by D. Felix

Motion carried and approved (4-0) - 4 Leadership students Abstain

### III. Review of Current SPSA Goals

D. Rogers reported the Goals in SPSA reflect the District LCAP goals and will also align with our WASC Action Plan for next Spring. Any changes require an Addendum, presenting the changes to the School Site Council, and for our Board to review.

Goal 3: Provide a rigorous and relevant education for all students.

Goal 3 Strategy 1: Maintain safe, clean learning environments that promote respect, fosters learning and support a collaborative positive school culture. This includes submitting Maintenance Work Orders for school facility repairs to keep the school working well. This is supported by the annual FIT Tool to evaluate our facilities and reported to SART (the school report card). We have also implemented Restorative Justice, our process of having students and teachers meet to resolve differences that occur in the classroom and focusing on building positive relationships with students, which is emphasized through the Nurtured Heart Approach (NHA).

Goal 1 Strategy 2: Our Counselor will create a graduation plan for each student and process for students returning to comprehensive sites from alternative education settings and/or staying at Yosemite High. This will usually occur in December. Many students choose to stay at Yosemite High due to the smaller learning environment. We do have students who graduate early, especially in Independence High. Our Counselor holds check-in transcript reviews with students multiple times per year to update their plan, making sure the students are on track to attain their goal, whether it be to return to the comprehensive site or graduate through Yosemite or Independence High. If they are not on track, we try to intervene by changing their placement, program, or class schedule to meet their needs and get them where they need to be.

Goal 3 Strategy 3: Improve student attendance and behavior on campus. We plan activities and athletics for student participation and improve student attendance (making students want to come to school). NHA assists students with their mental health. Mr. Rogers reported on working on acquiring a Social Worker Intern for Yosemite High to facilitate and coordinate services for families.

Goal 3 Strategy 4: Create a healthy, nutritionally sound school environment that helps all students achieve a healthy and fit lifestyle through health classes, PE classes and in conjunction with the Cafeteria staff. The Leadership class provides lunch time activities on occasion for student participation and fun.

Goal 3 Strategy 5: Increase access to mental health services (addiction and crisis counseling) by hiring personnel or setting up curriculum where needed. Such support staff includes behavior specialists and crisis counselors; a Student Support Manager; and a Counselor to coordinate resources and assistance for Foster Youth on campus. Yosemite High now has a full-time Nurse that assists students and families with needed medical referral or issues. This is in addition to working on acquiring a Social Worker Intern to help provide services for families and homeless youth. Mr. Rogers asked the students in attendance if there were services that they feel need to be offered on campus under this strategy. The students reported on “the good job” with what is currently being offered. Mr. Rogers was glad to hear that and reminded the students to let him know if they have ideas. E. Azevedo provided an update on how Donna Hoffart, School Psychologist, has assisted Leadership in helping with the campaign to “END the “R” Word - the NEW “R” Word is RESPECT.”

Goal 3 Strategy 6: Students will be physically healthy with the knowledge, skills and confidence to enjoy a lifetime of physical activities through health classes, PE classes and in conjunction with the Cafeteria staff. Yosemite High students are immersed in a healthy and nutritionally-sound environment. ASSETs, the after-school program, has an extensive co-ed intramural sports program with seasonal sports all year for students to participate in. Activities will be brought back as soon as we are cleared of the current Pandemic situation. Mr. Rogers asked for questions or comments. Student K. Shugrue brought to attention how lunches are packaged in a lot of plastic (which is bad for our environment) and if it would be possible to package in biodegradable containers or packaging instead. Another suggestion was for the Cafeteria to provide a salad option. Mr. Rogers will bring up these suggestions to the Nutrition Services Director.

Goal 4: Support District in recruiting and retaining highly qualified staff by developing leadership capacity, supporting new teachers/administrators, and accessing professional Development opportunities. This goal is set by the community, staff and student input at the District level.

Goal 4 Strategy 1: The District uses multiple resources, including EdJoin to advertise openings, hiring fairs, and offering incentives to recruit highly qualified and trained staff. Hiring incentives are offered for difficult-to-fill positions, such as Speech Therapist. Our District is currently offering a signing bonus of \$10,000 for a Speech Therapist. Mr. Rogers reported that he hires the teachers at Yosemite High and that he looks for the best qualified candidates, such as through the Stanislaus University mock interview program.

Goal Strategy 3: Ensure ongoing professional development for certificated and classified staff so they may stay current in their field. Professional Development trainings are offered to staff through in-person, online, and “at leisure” methods, such as courses offered through InnovatED. Additional trainings are offered to increase staff knowledge in Aeries, literacy strategies, Google Classroom, Canvas, Project-Based learning, and NHA.

Goal 5: Increase student graduation rate. Mr. Rogers asked the students for their ideas on getting students to graduate. Ideas include:

- Involve students in more activities and sports, especially at lunch time
- Make assignments more interesting so students will want to do the assignment
- More interactive, hands-on projects in class
- Some students do not have resources at home for art tools -- suggestion to hand out kits to students on Wednesdays at lunch
- Offering more tutoring opportunities, such as for Math, on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays after-school during ASSETs or at lunch time. Or offer both times and let the students decide for themselves which time they can attend since the student may have obligations after school, such as watching their siblings when they get home or they may have a job.

Mr. Rogers reminded the Leadership students that as students, they have a big influence and set the culture at school. If the Leadership students model taking their studies seriously, other students will fall in line with them.

Mr. Rogers reported Yosemite High is being monitored by the state due to a low graduation rate in the past - average over two years fell below 67%. It has improved to the mid-70% range. Mr. Rogers' goal is 80% for this year. He suggested students motivate each other to work toward graduation - positive peer pressure.

#### **IV. New Business / Comments / Concerns / Questions**

Mr. Rogers asked if there were any concerns. Student K. Shugrue asked about trying out for the Graduation speech. Mr. Rogers indicated information will be provided on try-outs. The In-Person Graduation will be on Wednesday, June 2 at 6:00 pm and a Drive-Through Graduation on Friday, June 4 from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. This was done to reduce schedule conflicts with junior high graduations. Four Graduation tickets will be provided to each student. A question came up whether students can decorate their graduation cap. No decorations on the cap per District Board Policy. There are exceptions, such as for a culturally-relevant adornment.

#### **V. Next SSC Meeting - Fall 2021**

#### **VI. Adjournment - Motion to Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn made by D. Rogers and seconded by D. Felix

Motion carried and approved (4-0) - 3 Leadership students Abstain (student S Smith-Arceo left earlier)

**End meeting time 3:11 PM**