



SYCAMORE CANYON SCHOOL

4601 Via Rio, Newbury Park, CA 91320
Phone 805-498-1573 Fax 805-498-0385
www.conejousd.org/sycamorecanyon

Doug Hedin
Principal

Mark W. McLaughlin, Ed.D.
Superintendent



School Site Council Meeting Minutes **Wednesday, September 15, 2021** **3:15 p.m. – Via Zoom**

Attendees: Doug Hedin, Cheryl Moncourtois, Jo-Ann Flowers, Mark Bowen, Beth Carr, Kate Taillon, Tim Carr, Heather Marien, Kim Michaud, Rachel Schohn, Jon Power

Guests: Shadi Khodavandloo, Hun Kaplowitz; Mackenzie Smith, Sarah Khalil, Alia Matthews, Drew Adamson, Ethan Bayer, Haley Carroll

- I. Welcome & Approval of Minutes from the August 2021 meeting
 - Motion to Approve – Heather Marien
 - Second – Mark Bowen
 - Motion Approved
- II. Public Comments
 - No public comments
- III. Committee Reports (ASB, DAC, DELAC, GATE-DAC, PTSA, SEDAC)

ASB

- PAC Days – Themed spirit days with Sept. 24th being Hat Day.
- Hispanic Heritage Month
- Lunchtime Activities (LTA) – ASB testing out their ideas created from their committee.
- Halloween Social Dance on Oct. 29 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. Students are contacting Jolly Jumps, DJ, Mister Softee and thinking of ideas on how to have an “Outdoor Haunted House”.
- Friday of every week, taking requested songs to play during lunch.
- Step-it-Up Fundraiser Kick-Off is Sept. 27.

DAC

- The Instructional Services and Student Support Services teams presented a report on school opening. The highlights from this presentation were Newbury Park High School’s Newcomer Academy. The academy currently has 40 students enrolled that are benefitting from smaller class sizes, with extra adult support, for core academic courses. In addition, a new social worker has been hired to help these families. Two new councils have been created, LGBTQ+ Advisory Council and African American District Advisory Council. A dual language immersion program is being developed at Conejo Elementary, which will begin August of 2022. Work is continuing to happen to expand the core literature lists for the middle and high schools and to develop the



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ethnic studies curriculum. A new visual and performing arts teacher on assignment has been hired to bring VAPA into all the CVUSD sites.

- Questions arose about neighboring school districts implementing mandatory COVID testing for unvaccinated students. Dr. Mark McLaughlin stated that mandatory COVID testing would not be implemented without county and/or state mandates.
- **Board of Education:** Bill Gorback was named the new Board President. Rocky Capobianco was voted to replace the empty seat left by Jenny Fitzgerald.
- **Thousand Oaks Library:** September is Library Card Sign-up month. Homework Help for students in K-8th grade will start back up on September 20th. No registration is required. Hours are Mondays: 3-5pm at Newbury Park, Tuesdays: 2-4pm at Newbury Park, and Wednesdays & Thursdays: 3-5pm at Grant R. Brimhall Library. Reading Buddies have resumed for students in grades 1st – 4th. Registration is required. September's fun craft is a Shrinky Dink kit. Stop by the Library to pick up a kit while supplies last. The Early Readers Virtual Book Club for grades 1st – 2nd has scheduled its first book discussion for September 20th, 4-4:45pm. Registration is required. The book selection is Llama Unleashes the Alpacalypse by Jonathan Stutzman.
- **Conejo School's Foundation:** In efforts with Student Support Services and Instructional Services, CSF was able to provide 83 completed school supply kits to students, as well as other essential items for those families in need of support from the Conejo Closet. They will continue these efforts as more needs are identified.
- This year's BreakThrough Parent/Guardian Education Workshops have already begun with a workshop held on August 17, led by CVUSD's own Jennifer Mundy, who gave practical tips to support students in their successful return to school. ICYMI, you can view it here: <https://youtu.be/tnbHsmK1RuA>. The next workshop will be held via Zoom from 5:30 – 6:30pm on September 30th. More information will be forthcoming.
- The Cash4Conejo Classrooms grant program will continue again this year. The first round of grants will be rewarded at the end of October. Deadline for application is October 15, 2021.
- New this year, CSF has partnered with the Steven Covey Foundation's Leader In Me Program in an Adopt-A-School initiative that helps bring whole-child habits to more schools. The Leader In Me program can be school wide, as it is in CVUSD's own Lighthouse school, Conejo Elementary. For schools seeing the value of the program, but not ready to commit to a whole-school model, elements of the Leader In Me program can be incorporated into any interested campus' current program. For more information, go to www.conejoschools.org/initiatves/lim-adoptaschool or contact foundation@conejoschools.org and/or jennifer.duston@franklincovey.com
- Lastly, if you are in the market for a new financial institution, check out the local branches of Logix Credit Union. During the month of September, this longtime supporter of public education and CVUSD's schools, will donate \$150 to the Conejo Schools Foundation for every newly



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opened account. This applies to accounts opened at Logix's Westlake, Thousand Oaks, and Newbury Park branches.

DELAC

No report – see CVUSD website

GATE-DAC

- GATE testing - For 4th grade and referrals submitted in Fall of 2020, testing will begin October 19th. For 3rd grade and new 2021 referrals, testing will begin February 22nd.
- Enrichment Activities – Noetic Learning Challenge Math discount registration window expires on Sept. 12th. This opportunity is offered to ALL 2nd through 6th grade families. The first Wacky Wednesday of the school year will be Wednesday, Sept 15th from 3pm – 4pm. It will be a virtual JPL tour for elementary GATE students. Stefanie Caswell is working on another virtual JPL tour for secondary GATE students.
- Committee updates - Two new committees will be formed. Curriculum/Equity committee will dive deeper into acceleration in elementary schools and equity in the curriculum and for all levels of learners. Enrichment/Grant will look into grant opportunities to fund enrichment activities, programs, and/or speakers to strengthen GATE-DAC and benefit all students.
- If you have any interest in being on either of these committees, please reach out to Alia Matthews. If you don't think you can commit to another meeting due to time constraints, please send her an email to share your thoughts and opinions in regards to these two committees. We just want to make sure that everyone's voice is heard.

PTSA

- Totem: active members 220 and \$13.1K YTD
- Pushed back Week of Giving to early November to kick off the season of giving. (just too much happening at the current time)

Past Programs since last SSC:

1. KONA Ice \$169 - last Friday of every month
2. Jamba Juice - NEW! First Friday of every month.
3. Grandparents BINGO last Sunday the 12th. Well attended and everyone had a great time.
4. Spirit Wear On-line through Eastwind. Ends this FRIDAY the 17th. It is not intended to be a fundraiser, but simply to enhance school spirit and a sense of community with Sycamore gear. We intend to open the on-line store again in November.

Upcoming Events/ Programs:

Posted 8/20/21



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1. Back to School Movie Night! Friday 9/24. Cronies food and Mr. Softee.
2. Kona Ice - also 9/24
3. Garden Event - Community Garden Clean Up 9/30 9:15-11:30. There is a sign up circulating now for volunteers.
4. Art Reflections - online submissions due on Oct 5th.
5. National Walk to School Day- Oct 6 - Encouraging families to “Chalk the Walk” the night before (October 5) by creating artwork or writing encouraging messages. On the actual Walk to School Day, we’re encouraging families to be active together in their neighborhood and to look for the chalk creations.
6. Restaurant Nights 10/12-10/13 at MOD Pizza
7. Book Fair Week - 10/18-10/22 Will be virtual this year

SEDAC

No report – meeting is next week.

IV. Principals Remarks

- Students are forming their routines and are getting used to the full school days.
- Parent-Teacher conferences – Oct. 11 – 15. They will be virtual.
- Street patrol have been out and around campus.
- Voting here on campus over the past two days. Always makes for interesting traffic and parking.
- Back to School Movie Night on Sept. 24th. Excitement around having this event return this year.
- No school on Thursday, Sept. 16th – Rosh Hashanah

V. Old Business – SPSA Plan Approval

- Committee reviewed updates/corrections brought forth during the last SSC meeting.
- Mr. Hedin outlined the approval process.

Approval of the 2021 – 22 SPSA

- Motion to Approve – Kim Michaud
- Second – Jon Power
- Motion Approved

VI. New Business

- SPSA Monitoring Forms –
 - Monitoring & Accountability Tool
 1. Committee went through the targeted actions and services that support positive student outcomes and evidence found within the SPSA
 2. CA Dashboard Indicators – no evidence since there has not been CAASPP in two years.



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3. Mr. Hedin will send out a Google Doc where site members can examine the level met for the SPSA Monitoring and Accountability Tool.
 - Parents on Campus
 - Mr. Hedin shared that he loves having parents on campus. District leadership would like to have input/perspectives from SSC members.
 - Parents enjoy being on campus and it brings about community.
 - As new parents, it allows families to meet other parents.
 - Gives opportunity to meet kid's friends.
 - There were no concerns with having parents on campus.
 - Parent wanted to know about volunteers back on campus. Mr. Hedin has information going out on this topic via the SMORE.

Next Meeting: October 20, 2021