

Palo Alto High School Site Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 16th, 2019
3:45 P.M.-5:30 P.M.
ROOM: MAC Board Room

Note taker: Lucy Filppu

Attendees:

- **Present:** *Adam Paulson, Angela Ambrosio, Anna Itoi, Ashley Hung, Bowman Wingard, Elizabeth Olson (PTSA), Kathi Bowers, Lucy Filppu, Mahogany Grissom, Nina Luu, Phoebe Kim, Prasanna Patel, Unmesh Sahasrabuddhe, Zander Davis*

- **Absent:** *Travis French, Meb Steiner*

3:45 pm: Call to order by <Name Here>, second by <Name Here>

3:50 pm: Open Forum

Unmesh Leads Meeting

1. Overall Feedback:

- Vaping remains an issue in the restrooms. Adam shares is that restrooms are being patrolled closely, new resources and research on vaping, more stigma attached. Not a Paly problem; it's a nationwide problem.
- Parents reporting that their students do not want to go to the restroom. Will continue to get information out.
- ASB brought infographic on vaping. Adam gives the problem of vaping back to the students, encourages students to solve problems with us.
- PTSA is coordinating with Wellness center on parent and student education front. 16 publications on campus, peer pressure articles really help. 30% of students at Paly have vaped, but anecdotally that number is falling.
- What are the controls in place to oversee the bathroom? Vape detectors in some restrooms and four campus supervisors patrolling. Lunch and brunch are easy to patrol. Consequences for vaping, suspension for a second offense. Communication would help.
- Posters can help in classrooms.
- Students share that this year they are not seeing people vaping as they did last year. Students do vape on campus, mostly walking to T&C. Mostly students were vaping last year to get out of class.

4:15 pm:

- <Name Here> moved to approve
- <Name Here> seconded

- All were in favor

May minutes approved by a majority vote.

4:20 pm: Site Council Bylaws

- Anna I. talks about bylaws about site council. What is the role of site of council? Number one role of site council is to **develop and approve a single plan for student achievement.**
- Also implementation of single plan, approved safety plan, other approvals. Board of Education recommends that we get training on the role of site council. Composition of Site Council could also use two support staff members.
- Meet once every month. Members are expected to attend all meetings. Three consecutive missed meetings, that person should be replaced. Applies to all members.
- We need a Chair of Site Council. Work with Adam to put together an agenda. Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary. Chair and Vice Chair should represent two different bodies. Organizational meeting.

Group moves to make Unmesh Sahasrabuddhe Chair, Lucy Filppu Vice Chair and Lucy Filppu Secretary. Mahogany Grissom will be back-up Secretary with Lucy Filppu.

Establish committees for members of Site Council. Staff development Committee in the works. Group should make decisions by consensus or by majority rule. Adam has the ability or option to bring a Site Council coordinator to the meetings. If there is a vacancy how will site council reps be replaced?

5:00 pm: Principal's Report (Mr. Adam Paulson)

Question about what Site Council wants to focus on this year. What is the vision/mission of Site Council this year? WASC years. (Western Association of School Accreditation).

Last year's Site Council accomplishments:

1. Morning program rolled out.
2. Review Emergency Procedures
3. Reviewed SIPSA (Single Plan for Student Achievement)

Adam explains how SIPSA aligns with Gunn, Palo Alto Promise and WASC goals.

Gunn involves Site Council in a "Data Night" twice. Adam would like us to participate in a data night, too, in January.

Wants a diverse committee of students to help with Data Night.

Focus groups needed by two or three weeks. Ms. Steingart will give an overview of WASC. Adam is preparing to roll out WASC to staff next semester. Focus group areas.
High Quality Teaching and Learning
Equity and Excellence

[Palo Alto Promise Here](#) [Detailed Palo Alto Promise Here](#)

Next meeting Adam will walk us through the parts of the Site Council that could help the vision for Paly.

Deep dive into the oversight goals for Site Council

Adam passes out SPSA goals. Guides us through this handout.
CAASPP test is for Juniors every year: Smarter Balance

Site Council decides that Prissana Patel, Anna Itoi and Mahagony Grissom will work with Adam Paulson to get a road map about all the SPSA goals written in plan, along with deadlines.

Schedule

- Students share that they don't like the schedule as much as last year. Two even days in a row are problematic.
- 3 hour project based classes were on the table.
- Adam says the schedule is decent but now we attack the homework question.
- Teachers are frustrated that they do not have a consistent schedule, we give feedback, Adam says we will stick with this schedule, gets lots of feedback, coding and theme
- **SPSA goals are shared with the Site Council email list.**
- Site Council money comes from the state; Jerry will be invited to next meeting to talk with us about budget.
- Can we use money sooner this year than last year?
- This year we have \$30K or so.
- Invite Travis to come in and tell us how morning community going
- Support staff Travis and Mebs invited to Site Council - Christa will invite them
- Tobacco free schools; Health and Wellness working on tobacco; cleaner bathrooms
- Suggested that we invite someone from Wellness come to Site Council

5:30 pm: Reports

ASB

- Volleyball tournament Monday
- Club Day tomorrow, Tuesday
- QuadSide Land
- Back to School Rally, Debate about who else won that rally
- Spirit Week Involvement and Homecoming, want more involvement from parents for Homecoming, set-up, breakdown, etc.

- Spirit Week we want teacher referees and teacher teams
- Paly Pals - new initiative where freshmen can have a buddy upperclassman who can help improve relationships. Not going too well. Freshmen are not signing up.
- MAC during lunch to get Paly Pals
- Mr. Hall sent out sign-up to freshman parents
- Seniors are not welcoming to Freshman - too cool for school
- Freshmen elections - most he's seen in his tenure at Paly
- Suggestion of bringing Seniors into Freshmen to serve as role models. More connections with more people.
- Topic of advisories - why do Seniors meet less with their Advisors than Freshmen do
- First generation students need to start earlier and Juniors need to be brought into the system earlier so they know what to expect
- Paly Alums talking with younger students - Student Panel
- Capture students during T.A. program so they can hear from Alums

Juniors should learn about the college process sooner.

PTSA

- Elizabeth Olson provided an update on PTSA

5:40 pm: Adjournment

- <Name Here> made a motion to adjourn
- Seconded <Name Here>