

Oct 11, 2023 | 📅 DVHS School Site Council 2023/24

Attendees: Musa Sayed (DH) Shelby Yeh (DH) Valerie Yeh (DH) Saanvi Tiwari (DH)
Tanishka Chawla (DH) Gavin Li (DH) Ali Siddiqui (DH) Allison Gardiner (DH) Alex Shieh
Ana Siladie (DH) Andrew Wengel (DH) Ben Lee [cadas@sandbliss.com](mailto: cadas@sandbliss.com)
Cyndi Oji-Marchese Diane Schumacher (DH) Evan Powell Erin Tanihara (DH)
George C. Lin Grace Li Jeffrey Scott Bernstein Johann Somerville (DH) Jay (Jian) Yao
Kerri Pike Knapp -she-her- Len Schultz Tony Thomas

Meeting Minutes

CTO - (3:22)

- Timekeeper: Scheppach
- Minutes: Tanihara

Common Abbreviations: P = parent; ST = student; T = teacher; PR = principal; C = comment; Q = question; A = answer

Review Minutes (3:23)

- Motion: Scheppach made motion to approve minutes “as is”
 - 2nd: Jeff
 - Motion: Approved

Principal's Update (3:26)

- Lot's going on. Building directions have been great; one of the best across all 4 grades
 - FB game on Fri
 - Dance on Sat
 - Musical concerts this week
 - Drama performances in the next couple of weeks
- 1st Q ended - looking at grades; looking at progress
 - Hoping ST taking advantage of tutoring, Access
 - SAT today ~300 ST took it
 - PSAT ~900 ST coming up (during school day)
- 10 min presentation @Board Mtg (~12 min in) - sums up what's going on at school and what staff is doing
 - Great to share, especially with where we landed with US News rankings
- PR out for surgery in Nov-Winter Break
 - There will be a sub (retired Admin)

Budget (3:32)

- Expenses: \$79,232
 - No major expenses since last update
- Received \$11,069 carry over funds

Funds Request: Tuohy (3:35)

- Seeking funds for a conference
- Q (T): How long is the conference?
 - A: 4-day conference; so need 1 day before time
- Other Ceramic teachers in District are looking to get funding (from their site) so hoping to collaborate with
- Q (P): When is last time staff went
 - A: T from another site went last year and had a great experience
 - A: T: Excited to network
- Q (T): Is it during school day?
 - A: Sub cost adjustment - 4 days is \$1000
- Q (P): How much \$ is allotted in budget for PD for T?
 - A: \$3,500 (spent 850) for entire staff, for entire year
- Q (P): Is there a way to share your learning other than STs in your class?
 - A: Concerns - supplies only go so far, but do allow STs who are coming in during Access with their friends / Need to think about how to share experience w/other ST (time & cost) / Would be sharing what learned to other teachers at site and in District as it will have more than just
- Q (P): Do we know what other conferences are offered in a year?
 - A: Typically 3-5 requests per year, but costs are not necessarily known
- C/Q (T): AP Workshops are done through AP Funding... Is this related to an AP course?
 - A: T does teach an AP course that does ceramics
- Chair (adjustment to agenda): Will listen to both funds request, then deliberate

Funds Request: Kim & Oji (3:47)

- Seeking funds for PD
- C: Looking through the website, there seems to be a CA lens in people
- Q (P): How do you see this positively impacting STs beyond class
 - A: STs doing projects that go beyond the classroom
 - A: As a Liaison, she can incorporate this as part of PD she is creating (as appropriate)
 - A: Part of diversifying the cannon group - so can share back with District group
- Q (P): If we do run into a funding challenge, can you sign up for 1 membership?
 - A: We recognize the value of the labor of both participants and workshop presenters so we would like to honor that and request funds for both participants
 - A: The importance of having a thought partner in an endeavor like this is huge so we're hoping to get both attendees covered
- Q (P): Would you be taking different sessions?
 - A: Yes, the idea would be to split
- Q (ST): Are the talks throughout the year?
 - A: There is a schedule of PD
- C: Like the idea of celebrating diversity
- Q (P): Did you try the PTA Grant?
 - A: Did not; 1 of the participants is not a traditional classroom teacher so wasn't sure if PTSA was appropriate venue

- C: “Bang for the buck” - value seems worth it

Discussion on the Request

- Q (P): Are there money elsewhere that we can pull \$ from
 - This is site specific, no necessarily something District (Ed Fund)
- C (PR): There has been an increase in ceramics, so ideally more STs can
 - C: AP budget may have some fund to pull from there
- C (Ana): Will have to look, but AP and donations may be able to cover some of the funds
- C (T): Ceramics teacher is a singleton teacher
 - She also works with STs in SpEd courses; so it will help her, help them
- C (T): Perhaps she can put on tutorial showcases during Access
- Q (P): How does PD funding work
 - A: There are District-funded PD that are often held on site
 - A: Typically local budget for staff requests
 - A: This is based on T request, but staff may find other funding sources
- Q (P): Does Ed Fund support PD
 - A: They did last year, but it may not always be the case do to changes in need and their budget (e.g., supplies for Art/Science, section money)
- Q (ST): What is the line item CL/Site Council?
 - A: Funds to support staff who are in those listed roles
- Motion (Tuohy): Gardiner move to approve conference registration funds (\$290)
 - 2nd: Gavin
 - Motion: Approved
- C (PR): They’ve already starts so currently it is out of pocket, but feel it’s important for them to get reimbursed for this work
- Motion (Oji/Kim): Powell makes motion to approve registration funds (\$400)
 - 2nd: Gardiner
 - Motion: Approved
- C (PR): Work with Ana to discuss other options for covering remaining Ceramics PD costs

Site Improvement Goal (4:10)

- Goal for us - what do we need to improve upon (system-wide strategies/action plans) to support the instruction / climate of school
- PR would like to hear feedback so that site Admin can draft goals
- C (PR): The school climate - working on using Access to increase student/staff connections (e.g., school spirit competitions like door directions)
- C (ST): Have weekly check-ins by each T -EX: How do you feel entering this week?
 - This is another way for T to get to know their STs
 - It doesn’t have to be about the class; STs may share about life outside school
- C (ST): ST health/wellness - we’re proud about being high achieving...
 - Check-ins are great
 - Promoting Wellness Center more
 - Hold more events

- C (PR): Like the focus on wellness and that T are being proactive. Do we have an intentional way to support transfer/new STs?
 - A: There's a aST connect team in leadership - provide events throughout the year, tours, etc
- C (PR): STs struggle with managing time and getting enough sleep
 - Not sure if there's something that can be done as school
- C (PR): More and more ST taking additional classes outside school
 - Doesn't help mental health / feeling stressed
 - Is there any way we can help this problem - set up a rule that does not allow ST take certain classes "outside"
 - A: When continue to discuss this topic and bring it to District
 - Q: What classes are they taking "outside" - is it something that is not offered here vs a 3rd science class Looking at what are they taking and why
 - C (ST): ST don't want to take course "on site" because (1) worried they might get a lower grade, (2) it didn't fit into their schedule / should have continue advice from counselor about taking courses / Q: Do we have data to share about STs taking outside classes and its impact
 - C: What is possible? Reframe - prioritize health/fun ... balance // Has to be a joint effort
 - C: Reality is we are a high performing school / Since colleges value it, we know our STs are going to do it
- Q (PR): What can we do for the 15-20% of our STs who just "struggle"
 - Time management
 - Choices about the "why" - why are we taking certain classes / joining certain campus clubs
- C (T): Uniform bell schedule
 - Can we build in more ST time within the day?
 - Looking at still having 7 period option, but ST only taking 6 classes to include a "homeroom / rest" period
- C (P): Educate parents on raising / supporting teens
 - Are some of these concerns family-driven or student (self-)driven?
 - How does college admission "actually" work? Considering multiple pathways
- C: ST who is taking classes in/out school
 - Likes Thurs as she has built in work period
- C: AP / HW - The amount of outside of school work that needs to be done with APs and then just HW
 - HW is optional - provides material, but doesn't make it part of the course grade
- C: Modular schedule - 3 classes + time in between classes
- C: Heard that some of the push for classes (take APs) coming from some of the private counselors that families are using
 - Are there opportunities for speakers to come to talk about what colleges are looking for
- C: Have an AP credit limit
 - Doesn't seem to impact college admissions as schools don't hold it against you

- A: It is a SRVUS Board decision
 - C: If this is a Ed Services, do STs / families need to take it to the Board?
- C (PR): Carnegie Mellon - Schools will take into account if you have an AP cap vs just looking at how many offered / They are looking at the level of difficulty of courses you are taking
- C: Limited AP is a plausible idea to help what STs are going to take at school
 - May create future problems: STs will just take non-District courses
 - STs are taking courses based on family issues, school/family cultures, and social media
- C: T reputations: When STs see their schedules; sometimes their 1st reaction is to drop course, take outside based on their perceptions of who they have
- Motion: to blend this conversation with Council recommendation - Powell
 - 2nd: Gavin
 - Motion: Approved

Council Recommendations (4:43)

- C (T): Pilot a small schools model for some of struggling STs
 - Have a pod of teachers to drive support
 - Build time to collaborate with each other / have PD
 - Q: Would this be considered “tracking”
- C (P): Tutoring services (Academic Leadership) that are being provided has been helpful
- C (P): Is the block schedule lower stress?
 - There will be a District-wide movement to consider a bell schedule
- C (ST): Access - Perhaps having it every day or expanded time
 - How are we using it?
 - Are T directly inviting the students who are struggling
- C (ST): Change of bell schedule - does it change the instructional minutes?
 - A: 7-10 min across the week, but there are other factors like lunch/break lunch, after school activities, how schedule impacts funding
 - C: It's not about T, it's about what's most beneficial for STs
 - C: From an attendance standpoint, if you miss 1 day, you miss 2 academic days
- C (ST): ALTs are a good resource - they are super welcoming (in this environment, it is embarrassing to ask for help)
 - Can T recommend STs for AT
- PR: Will take this feedback to draft goals and will bring those back to Site Council for feedback

Public Comment (4:56)

- C (P): There's a meeting tomorrow about hosting AMC tests during the day (for club)
 - Determining a plan to support club
 - AMC changed practices for this year that impacted this year
- C (ST): Academic Leadership - As a ST it's sometime hard to make the first steps
 - ST didn't want to get help in class, but it's helpful to have the ads to go to the Commons

- There are lot more tutors than ST who sign up for help
- C (ST): $\frac{2}{3}$ of school going (2200 w/guest passes) to Homecoming
 - Will have silent disco again
 - Food trucks will be there
 - Trying to include a variety of activities so people who have different interests will enjoy the time
- C (ST): Campus security - there seems to be a lot of students who leave during Access, what's being done to stop that?
 - We have 3 people monitoring the parking lot during that time
 - Admin is doing their best w/limited resources - discipline is happening for those being caught (e.g., detention, parking pass being revoked)
 - Thursdays are harder to catch students as ~900 have permission to leave at lunch, but we're trying to catch them as they return to campus
- C (ST) - Lunches are still being stolen
 - There is a camera pointing directly at table to help deter
 - ST please remind peers to be respectful of the space and the items that don't belong to them
 - PR: Potential solutions can be (1) to remove the tables so only lane line drop of at lunch can happen or (2) no longer allow food (including Door Dash) to be dropped off

Adjournment

- Motion: Saanvi
 - 2nd: George / Jay
 - Motion: Approved; adjourned at 5:08

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Action Items

- ☐ Principal and Financial Analyst will work with Yuohy to find additional funding for her conference request
- ☐ Principal will work with Site Leadership team to review Site Council's suggestions/feedback about site improvement goals and recommendations to draft some goals for the next cycle. These drafts will be shared at a later Site Council meeting.