

Gilroy Unified School District
SUPERINTENDENT'S PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL
 (SPAC) Meeting Minutes
 Monday, December 9, 2019
6:30 – 8:30 P.M.

Members in attendance:

Shalini Jampani (Brownell)	Centeotl Merino (Christopher)	Melissa Eaton (El Roble)	Jen Swigart (El Roble)
Melissa Avila-Carroll (GECA)	Susan Tran (Gilroy)	Christina Martinez (Gilroy)	Alexandria Dominguez (Glen View)
Kim DeWitt (Solorsano)	James Pace (Board Member)	Anisha Munshi (Board Member)	

Welcome & Introduction of the two School Resource Officers (SROs):

- Dr. Flores introduced the two District SROs.
- The District has two SROs that are jointly funded with the City of Gilroy.
- They are assigned to the two comprehensive high schools and by the feeder school pattern, although they respond to anything the District needs.
- Officer Ryan Hollar introduced himself. He has been part of the Gilroy Police Department for 22 years, and a Police Officer for 26 years. This is his fourth year as an SRO.
- Officer Mark Tarasco introduced himself. He has been with the Gilroy Police Department for 17 years. This is his fifth year as an SRO.
- As school resource officers, they try to make connections with students and, to be that resource to them.
- Both officers are from the area, have children in the district, and are very vested in the Community.

Special Presentation - Vaping (Officers Ryan Hollar & Mark Tarasco)

- The topic this evening was vaping. It is a national problem; every municipality is dealing with this issue.
- It has been about five years since the vaping epidemic hit.
- As of today, we now have vaping sensors at our two high schools. We are doing a pilot with four at each of the two high schools to see how they work.
- The SROs shared two different presentations with the SPAC members.
- Shared ["How Jull Made Nicotine Go Viral"](#) video. This video is designed for parents to know what they are looking for.
- Vaping by definition is the act of inhaling and exhaling the aerosol, often referred to as vapor, which is produced by an e-cigarette or similar device.
- CDC says 1 in 4 high school students are vaping.
- Estimated 2019 population in Gilroy is 58,756.
- Current middle school population in Gilroy is 2,667, this means 667 middle school students are likely vaping.
- The Juul current high school population in Gilroy is 3,400, which means 850 high school students are likely vaping.
- The GPD has seen students in Gilroy vaping marijuana and nicotine.
- Shared ["Everything You Need to Know about Marijuana Wax"](#) video.
- People usually begin using marijuana with concentration levels of 6%, most of the stuff the stores sell is 0-6%. There is not a place in Gilroy that sells marijuana.

- The City has an ordinance; they cannot sell marijuana in Gilroy.
- What they are putting in the pods is called ejuice or eliquid, which is nicotine extracted from tobacco and it is highly addictive.
- The company markets it with attractive sweet flavors.
- E-cigarettes are toxic to your lungs and the more chemicals listed the worse it is.
- The two primary ingredients found in e-cigarettes are propylene glycol and vegetable glycerin, which are toxic to the cells in your lungs.
- They produce toxic chemicals like acetaldehyde, acrolein, and formaldehyde, which can cause both lung and heart disease.
- When you vape, you most likely inhale the chemical acrolein, which is a weed killer. This can cause severe lung damage and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) lung disease, and can potentially cause asthma and lung cancer.
- Second hand vaping is also dangerous. If you are standing next to someone and they are vaping, the other person is also being exposed to this.
- Health concerns: Popcorn lung, bronchiolitis obliterans & COPD.
- Chronic obstruction pulmonary disease (COPD) is the third leading cause of death.
- More than 2,290 vape related illnesses are currently recorded and there have been 47 deaths as of November 21, 2019.
- 70% of kids that are vaping are vaping marijuana.
- Some of the symptoms include nausea, dizziness, unintentional weight loss, back and kidney pain, vomiting, shortness of breath, chest pain & gastrointestinal illness.
- School consequences: nicotine products is typically a two-day suspension, marijuana product is a three-day suspension.
- Legal consequences: have to be over 21 to possess an e-cigarette, vape or marijuana.
- Health consequences: pneumonia, lung damage, COPD, death.
- Medical consequences: ventilator, medically induced coma, intubation, temporary paralysis and/or death.
- Shared with the SPAC members the various vaping products that you can find.

Superintendent's Report

School Start Times – AB 328

- Beginning in July 2022, this Bill mandates that middle schools not start before 8:00 a.m. This will not affect us, as our middle schools start times are after 8:00. High schools cannot start before 8:30 a.m. Our high schools start at 8:00, our zero periods start at 7:00.
- In 2.5 years, we will have to make an adjustment to the high school schedules.
- The District can still have zero period at our high schools.

School Funding Initiatives

- Two ballot initiatives that are going to be on the Nov 2020 ballots, related to funding for schools. There are two separate ballots.
- One is called the Full and Fair Funding Initiative, which is supported by the largest administration organization, ACSA and the large school board association, CSBA.
- The second supported by primarily labor, labor unions in the state are very powerful. We call it the split roll tax initiative. It is called The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act.
- At the CSBA Conference that the board and Dr. Flores attended, they learned that the Full and Fair Funding Initiative is being pulled, because many polls were done and neither of these two funding initiatives were polling well. It will be placed on the 2022 ballot.
- Both these initiatives will bring in billions of dollars for public schools.
- They made a very strategic decision to pull one of them in the hopes that the other one will pass in November 2020.

- The California Schools and Local Communities Funding Act is on the November 2020 ballot and if passed will provide a lot of money for schools and other purposes.
- There is major opposition to it because it taxes commercial property. The business community is opposing it.
- CA is extremely underfunded, when it comes to funding for public schools. Depending on which report you read, we are either 45 or 48 in the nation. These initiatives are trying to address that issue.
- If they both go in 2020 and 2022 and they were both to pass that would be huge.

SPAC Representatives' Reports

Glen View

- Having students in dance, it is a lot fun; they will have a performance Thursday night 12/12.
- Choir performance next week.
- Parent Club just finished the Yankee Candle fundraiser
- Mural Club going, the students have chosen Influential women as base for school.
- Selling light up necklaces and headbands in hopes to raise funds all next week.

Solorsano

- First turkey trot Friday before break made \$6,000 for school.
- First "I Can Help" assembly.
- 6th & 7th graders wrestling made finals.
- Next Friday will have the first pep rally.
- "Outride" with Specialized Bicycle.

Brownell

- Went to the Holiday parade on Saturday, 20 Brownell students participated on a GUSD bus 12/7.
- Kindness club this season.
- Coin drive until Wednesday 12/11.
- Packs for animal shelter.
- Clothing drive.
- Donating at St. Joseph center this Wednesday 12/11.
- Decorating the Christmas tree at Nob Hill.
- Parent Club fundraiser at Pizza Factory.
- ASB snow fun dance 12/13.

Christopher:

- Bernice
- Trying to see field trip to colleges with our kids
- 12/4 parent club organized Christmas lunch for all staff and teachers, elac assisted

GECA

- General meeting in November, the speaker was Dr. Rose.
- Wrapped up poinsettias fundraiser (sold 30 cases).
- Freshmen family potluck.
- Last Friday ASB had winter formal in Morgan Hill, 150 students in attendance.
- Doing Pieology fundraiser this Friday 12/13.
- Final weeks, treated staff with goodies.
- November 22 was the application deadline - received 185 applications.
- Current GECA students were registering for spring semester of college classes.

- Spirit week.
- Joint booth ASB selling kettle corn, at the Christmas parade.
- PTSA held a creative writing class, and poetry out-loud, put an item in budget that will support prizes for these events, the advisor for those will get rocket books those will be the prizes.
- Biggest fundraiser for the year, giftwrapping 12/22-12/23 near Coach and Kate Spade stores.

Gilroy HS

- Gave away two gift cards sponsored by parent club, to certify students 11/5.
- Rock the Mock, had 80 attendees 11/8.
- First school site council meeting on 11/12, next one 12/10 at 4pm.
- Choir gala 11/15.
- Turkey drive vs Christopher HS- by end of Thursday they beat us. On Friday we continued to accept turkey donations, donated 50 turkeys 11/18-11/24.
- Choir concert going on, another one tomorrow 12/9. Suggested donation is \$8.
- Parent club meeting 12/10 at 7pm.
- Band concert at 7:30 in the theater 12/11.
- Winter Fiesta hosted by ELAC and SLS 12/13 from 5:30-9 p.m.
- Winter Fest sponsored by FFA at the school this year in centennial circle 12/14.
- Parent club hosting staff luncheon at Westside Grill 12/16.
- Finals week 12/18-12/20.
- Math portables are coming down to create a courtyard.
- Pool construction going really well, the Athletics Director met with Facilities Director this afternoon to go through concrete today.

El Roble:

- Holiday paint night with New Life Creation, this raised \$1,320 overall, the school received \$780.
- Student Council is running holiday canned food drive until 12/12 and selling holiday grams, sending them home so parents can also purchase them for students.
- Santa Secret shop was today, opened this week before school, during lunch and afterschool.
- Friday Cookies and Cocoa with Santa.
- Talent show underway 36 acts, theme is Aloha; it will take place on 2/7.
- Home and School Club meeting on 12/12.

Board Members:

- Attended a three-day annual education conference, they learned a lot.
- Great professional development for Board Members to attend, it is an annual conference and it rotates around different locations.

Q & A

Q: During the last meeting talked about how the vaping is becoming more visible in middle and high schools, wanted to start preventing it and doing a campaign, how we can roll out with this and do we have anything like that?

A: A lot of it is about education, our SROs have been great, they have been doing these kinds of presentations (similar to the one shown at this meeting). The District's main focus is trying to educate the students, many do not understand it is so dangerous,

because of how they market this, they don't realize that it could lead to their death. Every student has to go through a mandatory health unit in middle and high school and that is a part of the unit. The other side is enforcement.

Q: How do we create a community of students that can feel safe to speak up against it. What about empowering the students, if there is a small group of students that don't want it in school, how do we create a community of students to feel safe? Attended a vaping session taught by the Santa Clara County Health Department and sponsored by SLS, when she showed up, there was only four parents. Are there other ways trying to reach out to parents?

A: Have not found a good time to get parents in, have done various workshops on Saturdays, and very few show up - not on this subject but on other subjects. The SROs are offering their presentation anytime anyone requests, they are doing it all over the District. As far as the students, we would have to talk to the principals. There is a new App called StopIt, students can report things anonymously and then if necessary we follow up and talk to them.

Q: How does GUSD monitor cell phone usage and access?

A: We cannot monitor what students are doing on their phones, if we say we cannot bring them to school, it will make parents very angry. Our Wi-Fi has content blocked. Unless they are on their phone data they can access whatever they want.

Topics for Future Meetings

- a. Budget & Title I – January 13th
- b. Special Education
- c. Technology Report