

Palo Alto High School Site Council Agenda
Monday, March 8th, 2021
3:30 P.M.-5 P.M.
[Zoom Meeting Link](#)

Paly Norms

- *Full Engagement of All*
 - *Efficient Use of Time*
 - *Be Clear and Concise*
- *Respect Self, Others, the Process, and Our Working Environment*

Start Time	Agenda Item	
3:30pm	Notetaker sign-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Snack & Notetaker Sign-Ups 	
3:33pm	Call to Order	
3:35pm	Review and Approve February 8 2021 meeting minutes	
3:40pm	Open Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members of the community may address the Council on non-agenda items 	
3:50pm	Student Reports	Student Members
4:00pm	Paly Safety Plan	Jerry Berkson
4:15pm	WASC/SPSA report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● April Visits 	Erik Olah
4:25pm	Co-chair items & discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Equitable Grading key takeaways (H. Reardon) 	
4:30pm	Principal's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A/B/C grade report (SPSA Goal #1) ● Progress of equity initiative (SPSA Goal #2) ● Other updates from Brent 	Brent Kline
4:52pm	Budget Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Update on how much we have approved to spend this school year and update on the total site council budget remaining 	Lisa Stone
4:55pm	Wrap Up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Review of action items taken ● Agenda topics for next site council meeting ● Final thoughts 	
5:00pm	Adjournment	

Upcoming Site Council Meetings:

- 8-Feb-2021, 8-March-2021, March 15-2021 (TBD) 19-Apr-2021, 17-May-2021
- Notes:
 - Each Site Council Meeting - Deep dive into one of the three school goals
 - January to May - Goal setting for the next school year

Attendees:

- **Present:**Brent Kline, Kindel Launer, Kathy Bowers, Dave Schaeffer, Anna Itoi, Kala Mehta, Unmesh Sahasrabuddhe (PTSA rep), Sam Howles-Banerji, Chris Kuzmaul,Prasanna Patel, Hunter Rearden, Nysa Bhat, Bennett Quo, Ayush Singh, Lisa Stone, Bowman Wingard
- Also present: Jerry Berkson, Erik Olah, Jane A., Rich A., Rohan Bhatt
- **Absent:** Mary Ellen Bena

3:33 pm: Call to order - Brent

3:34 pm Review and Approve Minutes

- February 8, 2021 minutes approved by a unanimous vote. Brent moved to approve. Hunter seconded.

3:35 pm: Open Forum

- None

3:50pm: Student Reports

- Bowman gave an update. Happy to be back on campus. Sports back in session. 50-50 friends will come back.
- Nysa Bhat will be online for the rest of the semester. Juniors will be getting ready for the SATs in April. Sports practices have started up. Students going back to Paly. Majority is choosing to remain online. Is asking Matthew to brief her on the Title IX video. Brent is meeting with the Title IX group of students. It is currently a student-led work created a student-friendly video on Title IX.
- Ayush said he is looking forward to freshman orientation. Decided to see how the week goes. Brent recommended giving it 2 weeks.

4:00 pm: Paly Safety Plan (Jerry Berkson)

- In 15 years, this is the first time Jerry has come to a site council meeting to go over it. District already has a copy of the Paly Safety Plan. The district does 95% of it. Page 11 describes the goals to work on. It has already been turned into the district. In the past, this has been done in June. It was handed to Jerry about 3 weeks ago by the district to update, so thus the short notice.
- Jerry then discussed the goals of the Safety Plan: attendance, discipline, safety, equity, disaster preparedness, Title IX, COVID safety protocols.
- Jerry then opened the floor for questions. Prasanna asked who the point person is for Title IX. Jerry responded that it is Jerry.
- Chris suggested that in an evacuation it would be great to have student agency in the event of an evacuation. Jerry said that it all comes from the District but it can be thrown out there.

- Unmesh: What are the protocols related to notifying the people regarding people exposed to COVID? Brent said it is not our plan at the school level -- it's the District's plan.
- Dave: The document also points to site-specific procedures for COVID. Should that be documented somewhere?
- Anna went through her comments on [this](#) table, and Jerry's responses were noted in the table. Jerry agreed to update the school data as requested and link to the then-current Paly COVID plan. When questions were raised about the details of the Paly COVID plan, Brent emphasized that COVID safety matters are not within the scope of this site council's Safety Plan review as this has already been decided by the District, and that Paly is merely implementing the District's COVID protocol. He instructed the site council to focus only on the SPSA/WASC related parts of the Safety Plan. He noted that details of the site-specific COVID protocol are not up for discussion at this meeting as the decisions have already been made by other groups.
- Dave moved (and Sam seconded) to approve the Paly Safety Plan, which is separate and distinct from the District's COVID Safety Plan and the site-specific "COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols". At the instruction of the principal, the site council did not review or approve the District's COVID Safety Plan nor the site-specific COVID-19 Health and Safety plan. The Paly Safety Plan, with the below modifications, was approved by a majority of the site council:
 - Updated data at the beginning of the report
 - Addition of the following goal to page 11 - "Monitor, execute and adjust COVID-19 protocols to maximize safety for all stakeholders."
 - On page 89, add a link to the then-current Paly COVID-19 Safety Protocols in the sentence: "Please see your site specific COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols for additional information."

4:35 pm: WASC/SPSA Update (Erik Olah)

- Met with the WASC visiting chair. Will all be virtual. Invited us to read the entire WASC report.
- Dave asked what is the best way to track progress toward the 2021-22 school year goals. Brent said it is the school's responsibility to look at data and follow the growth.
- Dave thanked Erik for sharing the draft report with the site council.

4:45 pm : Co-chair items & discussion

- Hunter discussed what equitable grading means and also distributed a [one-pager](#) to add more detail. As we saw in the data, the reality is that at Paly right now, if a student is black or Latin X, or if they have an IEP, they are more likely to receive a D or F at Paly than other students. Some traditional grading practices in the US are a component of the cause of the performance gap. Standards-based grading can be implemented in an equitable way or an inequitable way. Equitable grading and standards-based grading are

not the same thing. Should not be graded for behavior or compliance. We want to grade skills/knowledge.

- We ran out of time to discuss the A,B,C grade report but Brent said he'd reformat it and send it out to us. He reported that it is so difficult to analyze and look at grades. It is determined by 200 people. He will reformat the report and send it out.
- Brent reported that there is a Title IX project: holding forums. The student-led group met with the Title IX director and highlighted themes. The Title IX process is going well. It is a priority to participate and be part of the solution.

4:52 pm: Budget Review

Lisa Stone

- Lisa said there is no change to the budget update.

Wrap Up

- Action Items
 - Brent to reformat and send to site council the A,B,C grade report
 - Hunter to send his Equitable Grading One-Pager
 - Jerry to make the following tweaks to the Safety Plan:
 - Updated data at the beginning of the report
 - Add to the goal to page 11 - "Monitor, execute and adjust COVID-19 protocols to maximize safety for all stakeholders."
 - On page 89, add a link to the then-current Paly COVID-19 Safety Protocols in the sentence: "Please see your site specific COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols for additional information."

5:00 pm: Adjournment

- Dave made a motion to adjourn
- Seconded by Brent