

Palo Alto High School Site Council Agenda

Monday, April 19th, 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
	Notetaker sign-up <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <u>Snack & Notetaker Sign-Ups</u>
3:30pm	Call to Order
3:33pm	Review and Approve <u>March 8, 2021 meeting minutes</u>
3:35pm	Open Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Members of the community may address the Council on non-agenda items
3:45pm	Constituency Reports (5 minutes each) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students• Parents• Teachers
4:00pm	WASC Visit
4:45pm	Principal's Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Update on ongoing initiatives• Q&A
4:55pm	Wrap Up <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget update (if necessary)• Review of action items taken• Final thoughts
5:00pm	Adjournment

Upcoming Site Council Meetings:

- 8-Feb-2021, 8-March-2021, 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, Lisa Stone, Chris Kuszmaul, Mary Ellen Bena, Hunter Rearden, Dave Schaeffer, Anna Itoi, Kala Mehta, Sam Howles-Banerji, Bennett Quo
- Also present: Unmesh Sahasrabuddhe (PTSA rep), Erik Olah, Christina Schmidt, Charu Gupta, WASC committee members, members of the public (Alex Van Riesen, Jah, Nina Luu, Stephen Lee)
- **Absent:** Prasanna Patel, Ayush Singh, Bowman Wingard, Nysa Bhat

3:30 pm: Call to order - Brent

3:33 pm Review and Approve Minutes

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

3:35 pm: Open Forum

- Charu Gupta gave a PTSA update
- Christina Schmidt also spoke and thanked the site council for the WASC and SPSA reports.

3:40 pm: Constituency Reports (5 minutes each)

- Students
 - Bennett reported that student elections were just finished. A lot of positive reviews from the opening of schools. More kids are coming in person for schooling. Seeing an opportunity to switch to be with friends has been a positive thing.
- Parents
 - Kala reported on her conversations with Black Scholars United and notes were provided to Mr. Kline. Some representatives will be coming to future site council meetings. Invited anyone on the call who is interested in diversity and inclusion work.
 - Anna reported on major positive feedback on the SAT session organized at Paly and reported on an increase in anti-Asian hate and an incident related to a student being called 'COVID' from another student, and asked what is being done to prevent this.
 - Anna and Dave also gave an update on the LCP meeting at the district level.
- Teachers
 - Hunter and Kindel gave an update on the preparation for the AP exams and on finals.
 - Kathy Bowers reported that a large subset of our students are disappointed with college admissions, and many students did not get into college.

4:40 pm : Principal's Report

- Parents wanted to move to 4 days a week. We are accommodating this.
- Bringing Enid back on Friday and working with her equity card tool.
- Paly Asian American Student Union sent a survey to teachers and will have a student forum for any students wishing to hear stories and messages of support.
- Prioritizing our learning opportunities to in-person.

4:00 pm: WASC visit (Barbara Campbell)

- Barbara asked what is the biggest challenge in achieving the goal. Hunter responded that equity is the biggest challenge. A lot of the systemic inequities are appearing in certain contexts.
- Barbara asked what makes this plan different from the plans we've had in the past. Sam responded that the focus in the past has just been opening the door, and in this report the focus is more on the outcomes. Yes, everyone can enroll in the course they want to enroll in and look back at systems of support. Brent said we are focusing on making AVID better. Kindel said that we delanned English, which makes students better prepared to take more challenging courses.
- Unmesh noted the challenges that we've had in the past and seeing how to make incremental progress.
- Question from WASC committee: how are you addressing the correlation between the absenteeism rate and the D and F rate. Brent responded that there is a focus on absenteeism, and Tom Keating can explain the work he has been doing.
- Ron and Corinne had questions on the SPSA: What data did we review to formulate the SPSA plan? Unmesh: It was done in a super rush last year and the year before. We had barely had a meeting and it was incremental. Hunter added that data here is often compiled and analyzed by a small number of people, often administrators, who look at the big trends and put together the data together in a way that is digestible. A lot of us haven't looked at the raw numbers ourselves because it was done by two administrators who are no longer in the same positions.
- How do you monitor that people are implementing these strategies in the classroom? Brent's response was that these practices will be observable.
- Barbara: How do we do differentiated instruction to serve the needs of students who need more support? Has there been any training on differentiation? Kindel: The idea of meeting all learners where they are is a standing agenda item. Hunter discussed some training that addressed differentiation. Kala discussed adding student voice and not centering around a student deficit model and more of an asset-based model.
- At 4:45 pm, the WASC visiting committee left.

4:51 pm

- After the WASC committee left, a discussion ensued with the remaining attendees about the need to improve the SPSA process to include the voices of the

stakeholders. Brent confirmed that he views this as his job to improve how Paly in the past has engaged with important stakeholders about creating the SPSA.

- Christina Schmidt asked how we are implementing the learning tools to see what the student needs holistically. The assessments can be all over the map. Brent said that grading is a difficult conversation that needs to happen.
- Brent moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave seconded.