



SANTA ROSA
FRENCH-AMERICAN
CHARTER SCHOOL

1350 Sonoma Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: October 7, 2014

Meeting Location: SRFACS Library

Recorded By: Jennifer Jimenez

ATTENDANCE

Pascal Stricher

Cindy Beurtheret

Emmanuel Benefield

Sarah L'Hoste

R. Miller

Jason Davis

Nas Salamati

Jennifer Jimenez

Kate Gros-Balthazard

MEETING START

Meeting Schedule Start: 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Scribe: Jennifer Jimenez

Meeting Actual Start: 5:10 p.m.

Meeting Timekeeper: C. Beurtheret

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

C. Beurtheret moved to approve. N. Salamati seconded.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

S. L'Hoste moved to approve and N. Salamati seconded

PUBLIC COMMENT

Some questions were posed about the Winter Show, science tables for the 7th grade, and free and reduced lunches. There was some discussion about parent attendance or lack thereof at the SAB meetings by the larger parent community. Some possible reasons for this were discussed. A question was also posed about whether or not the school spirit days and free dress days would continue this year.

Principal's Report

P. Stricher shared that the most recent ELAC meeting was held in the morning during the school week which increased attendance. The president of ELAC will continue from last year and there is a new DELAC representative, Maria Arango. There are seven projects to focus on for English Language Learners this year with additional funding provided through LCAP money. Projected spending is for \$30,000 to be dedicated to technology, such as laptop carts and \$17,000 will be used for additional tutoring for English Language Learners. There may be additional funds available as well depending on enrollment. Some money will be used for zero period and after school instruction. Also, teachers who have an additional prep in their schedules are providing support to students from other classes. C. Beurtheret shared that another faculty member is collaborating with her to provide one on one intervention to students new to French. In English, teachers are working in classes to give more one to one attention. R. Johnstone also provides additional support to teachers in math.

The school district showcase was held at the fairgrounds on Saturday, September 27. Prospective families came to the SRFACS booth and the staff who were involved were able to gain insight into other schools' programs.

The first Second Cup of Coffee for the school year was held two weeks ago. It was well attended and generally a success.

The winter show will be December 17th and December 18th. The first night will be TK, K, and 1st grade and the second night will be 2nd-7th at 6:30 PM. Both will be held at the Santa Rosa High auditorium. There is a parent committee that is working on scheduling.

Middle School Update

There was a meeting between district officials and members of the middle school task force. Another meeting is scheduled for this week and P. Stricher is continuing to meet with district officials regarding facilities questions.

In response to a question about the piles of plywood at the east end of the TK classroom and the unused marquee at the front of the school, P. Stricher reported that the District official in charge of maintenance had been notified, and that the District would be removing these items shortly.

Discussion has been taking place about the upgrade of technology on the campus with the district technology administrators. One of the issues is wifi and connectivity. The bandwidth is acceptable, but the routers are the problem. This is important for the school in its selection of devices. A group of teachers is coming together to review the options and make a recommendation. Money for these technology upgrades will come from district LCAP funds, matching Foundation funds, and possibly bond money if the bond measure passes. Discussion is continuing to take place about a school website administered through the district.

J. Davis shared that some parents have expressed a desire for more streamlined electronic communication and opt out of paper based communication. There was some discussion about the pros and cons of one or the other. J. Davis asked if parent representatives could poll parents on this question. P. Stricher added that even if communication becomes all electronic then there should be an option to still access a paper copy. Another suggestion was made to add a link to La Plume of the principal's communique. P. Stricher will consider these options to make a final decision.

ACTION ITEMS

Progress Toward Goals as Outlined in the Charter: English Language Arts

R. Cooper shared that all English teachers have been trained in GLAD. The English teachers are now meeting as a department 2-3 times a month to support each other, align communication with parents, and to vertically articulate the curriculum. Collaboration is also taking place during prep time and when teachers push in to other classes. One of the teachers' concerns is how to more efficiently manage their time and instruction given the number of students they are each responsible for and the

movement between classes. P. Stricher shared that R. Cooper and D. Darrow have been working closely with the two new English Language Arts teachers to provide support and collaboration on curriculum and instruction.

A question was posed regarding the writing program that the teachers are using and to what degree this is embedded in the GLAD training. This is one way that the English Language Arts program will move beyond the Houghton Mifflin program. The French teachers will also be trained in GLAD (Guided Language Acquisition by Design) Another question was posed about how the English department is accessing the computer lab to work on composition skills etc. R. Cooper shared that having computers in the classrooms would also be helpful in this area. The GLAD program also addresses school wide norms and values that R. Cooper and C. Spita are using to develop more school wide rules and expectations. A question was posed about how to communicate the key elements of the English Language Arts curriculum to the parents. A suggestion was made to include a curriculum highlights item in the principal's communique. A question was posed about whether or not the school will engage in the SCOE library contract. P. Stricher shared that the SCOE library contract will be renewed for the upper grades.

Annual Parent Survey Results

Responses were reviewed from the survey summary. A point was made regarding the number of parents that are concerned about the clarity and enforcement of school rules and expectations and how the previous discussion about implementation of GLAD will address this. Facilities are an ongoing concern. Discussion took place about how to put out the survey earlier and reach more parents.

Timeline for French Language Assessments

- P. Stricher shared that three teachers will attend a workshop in November and January regarding French Language Assessments through an organization called CIPP. Once these three teachers are certified the school can be an official site for administering the Delf Prim French Language Assessment. The test focuses on areas of language learning such as listening, reading comprehension, speaking, and writing. There is a cost per student to take the test. The school expects to test students who have been at the school for at least three years. The Delf Prim is widely recognized as a standardized assessment for French acquisition. There is not a specific timeline for implementing the test until after the training but the goal is to try to test in the upper grades by the end of the school year.

Composition of School Advisory Board

SAB currently has eight members but in the past there has been an odd number to facilitate voting. However, it is difficult to determine who can fill a ninth spot and be representative of all stakeholders. C. Beurtheret moved to close this discussion for the time being and allow SAB to remain at its current number. J. Jimenez seconded.

Additional Comments

No additional comments

Meeting End

Meeting scheduled end: 7 PM

Meeting actual end: 7:35

Next Meeting

Next Meeting Location: SRFACS library

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 4, 2014

Next Meeting Time: 5 PM

