



School Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes

January 18, 2017
A206 - 3:30pm

Members in Attendance

Claire Beswick (Student), Jennifer Beswick (Parent), Carla Renzi (Certificated - Counselor), Paul Belzer (Principal), Valerie Arbizu (Assistant Principal), Jim Burke (Teacher), Gianna Garcia (Student), Edie Arteaga (Student), Karla Cahue-Lunaparra (Parent), Sandra Feder (Parent), Ellie Feder (Student), Terence Lien (Assistant Principal)

Members Absent

Jenna Joseph (Teacher), Liza Wardell (Certificated - Librarian), Michael Zozos (Teacher)

Members of the Public in Attendance

Dennis Zell (Rotary, alumni, parent), Cecilia Lunaparra (student),

3:36pm

Call to Order (P. Belzer)
Introductions and highlight(s) from Winter Break.

3:43 – 3:43pm

Public Comment - Open Forum

No public comment.

3:44 – 4:14pm

School Reports

C Renzi – scheduling for the 2017-18 school year has started.
J Burke – upcoming Professional Development Day on February 6th.
P Belzer – two additional minimum days to be scheduled.

Parent Reports

S Feder – Winter Formal, just getting back into the swing of things, California Healthy Kids Survey (CHKS) results (alcohol and other drug use – “AOD”)

- P Belzer – brought up at a Parents Group meeting.
 - o Increase from 9th grade to 10th grade (10% to almost 50%)
 - Little AOD use/intoxication at school or school events
 - Addressed in Health Class during 9th grade year, counselors talk about.
 - S Feder – lot of communication during 9th grade year, but not much following years
 - S Feder – targeting specific population, upping the level of conversation before going off to college/future
 - J Beswick – Parent Education events bringing in County Narcotics Task Force
 - J Burke – last year’s Audrey Pott foundation presentation last year. How do you measure effectiveness?
 - C Beswick – important to communicate with parents, but also need to pair communication with education (i.e., parents get harsher and student gets more rebellious)
 - School has communicated ramifications of bringing/using at school
 - o J Burke – historically (past 3-4 years) Professional Development days have been problematic with students behavior/use.
- P Belzer – inhalants and pharmaceutical use is low. Alcohol and marijuana use education may need to be ramped up. Connected conversation.
- D Zell – Peninsula Healthcare District – implementing programs. Shocked at reported/discussed numbers. Coordination between school/district and Peninsula Healthcare District, work on curricula and best practices.
- J Burke – best practices from Colorado schools available?

J Burke – Parent Education subgroup asked to J Burke to moderate college panel was good last year but unable to attend this year. Breadth of representation/range of students would be helpful and more realistic.

P Belzer – binge drinking/at-risk behavior was at least 10% lower than student use.

Student Report

C Beswick – Winter Formal was good. Random Acts of Kindness and March Madness coming. Winter Rally and Spirit week coming.

E Arteaga – two Mondays off were good after Winter Break. Concern over seeing “old” grades still in SchoolLoop.

- J Burke – this is new for teachers
- V Arbizu – yearlong courses and yearlong gradebooks. Reminders sent out to teachers again today to restart their gradebooks.

E Feder – spring play coming up.

P Belzer – dance was good and was concerned about the lights. Most socially-interactive dance in 10 years. Dancing was appropriate. Students mixed/mingled more. Line up at 10:30PM was new to me. May extend “lock in”. Other schools have undertaken bussing to dances (proms, Winter Formal) but we may not be there yet. Burlingame phenomenon.

- C Beswick – people hype it up a lot and concerned about getting to other places (In-N-Out)
- P Belzer – shared experience at previous school (dancing comfort).
- What’s the message to those remaining at the dance? Need conversations.
- G Garcia – bus will leave, so those few that want to stay are overruled.
- C Beswick – dance is long so tired and hurting/sore and want to sit down
- E Arteaga – concerns about DJ and music being played
- S Feder – conversations worth having, slightly entitled, lots of money being spent
 - o E Arteaga – BHS tradition
 - o S Feder – can we make the dance more of the “it” thing
- C Beswick – music is a concern. “Suggestions Box” to request music in the office.
- K Cahue-Lunaparra – props might be helpful
- S Feder – put a lot of premium on finding new venues, but some venues just work better.
 - o Creating a sense of community.
- C Beswick – like this venue – plenty of seating and very open
- E Feder – best venue in the past few years. Hillyer was too big. Fox Theatre had no place to go.
- G Garcia – very open and plenty of room.
- P Belzer – groups kept changing and inter mingling.
- P Belzer – 9th graders do not necessarily know that it is a “Burlingame tradition”, not want to pressure others. Appreciate that kids had a good time and behaved themselves. Highlight of dances that I’ve done.

4:15 – 4:32pm

School Safety Report (T. Lien)

(handout provided)

Presented/reviewed by T Lien.

Motion to approve School Safety Plan as presented/reviewed to the SAC: J Burke

Second: C Renzi

Vote called for by S Feder: unanimous approval

4:33 – 4:48pm

WASC Overview (P Belzer)

(handout provided)

Handout reviewed.

- Reviewed independently by each individual – first two pages.
- Outcomes/Focus Groups/Home Groups – reviewed by P Belzer
 - o Review of Focus Groups
 - Call for volunteer parents and students to join a Focus Group.
- Model/Timeline – to be reviewed independently
- Model Process – overview provided by P Belzer.
- Vision/Mission – important and unites collective efforts.
 - o Current mission/goals
 - o ESLRs → now changed to “schoolwide learning outcomes”
- Various times for give input. SAC to have final approval.

Please email P Belzer if able to participate electronically or in person in Focus Groups.

4:48 – 4:59pm

Superintendent Goals 1 (P Belzer)

(handout provided)

- Superintendent Skelly gave update to SMUHSD Board.
- Individual reading time to review handout.
- Example of BHS 78% A-G completion closely mirrors California Healthy Kids Survey result of students’ self-reporting that 78% of parents have college education
 - o How do we stretch?

Hard decisions on how to best support students – small AP class load versus larger number in college prep courses.

- V Arbizu – teacher cap on how many students a teacher can teach
- C Beswick – have not felt that class sizes have been a concern

Discussions to continue.

4:59 – 5:13pm

Late Start Update (P Belzer)

Conversation started by District/Board and some concerns raised at December Board meeting. Unsure how to best move forward, awaiting some direction from District/Board. Pace of discussion/implemented has slowed some.

J Burke – costs of living/housing since Superintendent Skelly implemented late start in Palo Alto has changed significantly. Live-work balance concerns.

P Belzer – not simply a BHS decision. Hope to have some more direction for next SAC meeting.

D Zell – science is overwhelming that late start is beneficial. Options for early staff and students. Must be for benefit of students

C Beswick – initially in support of late start. Can only really change it by 30 minutes due to impact on extracurricular sports/activities. Now, do not feel that it is really going to change things and not applicable.

P Belzer – good and complicated idea that has a lot of impact.

V Arbizu – research similar to small classrooms research and applications. Impact of late start would be greater if moved to 9:00 start (compared to 8:00 start).

J Burke – Larry Teshara has announced his retirement from the Adult School at the end of the school year. LT was principal of BHS for 15 years. Culture of school remains/originates with LT. Event or naming in his honor/recognition? Remarkable life of service.

- P Belzer – let's talk about how to best honor
 - o D Zell – Alumni Association might be willing to assist
- J Burke – naming the quad or outdoor space to recognize that he was always outside with the kids

C Beswick – ASB (E Feder) could do something to honor legacy – mural, banner

5:13 – 5:17pm

Professional Development Requests (T Lien)

1 – AP Conference for AP Environmental Science teacher

Motion to approve: C Renzi

Second: S Feder

Vote called for by S Feder: unanimous approval

2 – AP Conference for teacher to attend AP Psychology

Discussion – school has no plans to offer this course

J Burke – good to support/connect new/younger teachers. Reinforce identity and see school investing in them. Always improves teaching in some context. Err in the direction of growing teachers.

Motion to approve: J Burke

Second: C Beswick

Vote called for by S Feder: unanimous approval

S Feder – request note that since this is not leading directly to an AP Psychology class, request teacher bring back/share strategies for others and for students.

5:18 - 5:20pm

Announcements (P Belzer)

- GATE Planning for College for event
- PSAT Night
- 1st Home Quad on Friday
- Dance expectations –
- S Feder - Teen Mental Health open house – how larger community can support students. RSVP needed (link will be sent by S Feder). Nice to have some Burlingame representation.

5:20pm

Meeting adjourned at 5:20pm by S Feder.