



Mills Planning Committee (MPC)

Wednesday, October 5th, 2022, Zoom, 4:15-5:15 pm

***Vision:** Mills students embrace learning for growth. They use the power of creativity, collaborative problem-solving and critical thinking to make a positive impact on our world.*

***Mission:** Mills High School provides a safe, vibrant and inclusive learning environment that promotes equitable opportunities for all students to achieve academic goals while giving them the tools and resources to access personal growth, well-being and balance.*

MPC Members:

Parent Representatives: David Sprecher (Chair), Minfang Gao, Catherine Dalmas

Teacher Representatives: Mary Rustia (Vice Chair), Jayde Tijero, Alexandra Dove

Other Staff Representatives: Jonathan White, Eric Ding

Student Representatives: ASB Representatives -John Huang, ASB President

Present:

Agenda:

- A. Welcome & Introductions-Ms. Duszynski/Mr. Sprecher, 4:15-4:25
 - Welcomed ASB president John Huang who is representing students
 - Welcomed our guest- Joy Henry
- B. Review & Approval of Minutes from September- Mr. Sprecher, 4:25
 - Approved without opposition 10/5/22
- C. Approval of Bylaws- Ms. Duszynski/Mr. Sprecher, 4:25-4:45
 - Group reviewed Bylaws, made some changes to language for consideration next time. Will be sent via email for approval in October.
 - Approved without opposition 10/5/22
 - Future meeting dates: 11/2, 12/7, 2/1, 3/1, 4/5, 5/3
- D. Outstanding Election- Nomination for secretary, Mr. Sprecher, 4:45-4:50
 - No nominations at this time. Will continue to keep position open on the agenda for future meetings.
- E. Report out (please fill out in advance) Ms. Duszynski/Mr. Sprecher, 4:50-4:55
 - Student Report: John shared that Spirit Week was a little new for students because Monday was a non-student day, so a shorter Spirit Week, not what they're accustomed to. Seeing lots of participation and students feeling more comfortable going outside their comfort zone, started with easier things like tropical wear and doing things that are different and allow students to express themselves more (never seen so many cowboy hats), really embracing what spirit days are for and seniors doing a good job setting the example and giving other classes an

opportunity to express themselves. Lots at lunch with Spirit Day and food fair, but thought it was a success. Kids always willing to support clubs and try different foods that aren't always offered, and having food fair monthly or occasionally helps us build the school community. Still looking forward to what's in store tomorrow and how students will prepare for that (Spirit Wear), not dedicated to one decade (can dress in any decade) and not be bound to one set of rules. Really trying to be more inclusive and have more students be included and engaged. First time planning all events at once; rally got moved outside and wouldn't have enjoyed doing it inside. All the games and efforts have been successful and excited to see how it's going to play out. Excited to see football team play and see some fun in store since we won the last two games. First dance. Doing it outdoors gave more freedom to students compared to East Gym (John's freshman year). Homecoming is shifting more to a schoolwide event rather than underclass parents. Upperclass students want to go just as much as other students. Hats off to the Vikings!!! For all their prep!

- Parent report: Ms. Gao reported out on the food fair today because she went to the school to help deliver the food and saw many students participate and saw the excitement around the event. This Friday is another rally and spirit week for homecoming. Students were looking for cowboy boots for today and students looking forward to rally week. Kudos to all the students who participated. Ms. Dalmas mentioned that her daughter mentioned she enjoyed the food fair and looking forward to the dance on Saturday.
- Staff/Teacher report: Ms. Dove mentioned nearly half the freshman students bought HC dance tickets. Participation in Spirit Days really positive and many students that didn't have 6th period stayed on campus. Tomorrow is Throwback Thursday. District policy that we don't sell tickets at the event, will sell tickets on Thursday and Friday still. District policy to not allow guests right now. Cotton candy machine, bubble maker, photo booth, movie. Trying to make events not just dancecentric but give other opportunities. Second year in center court, last year felt more collegial. Dancing through the Decades—disco theme but can select any decade (Flapper, 20s, ruffles). Masks are optional outdoors and recommended indoors per CDC and County guidelines. Supervised movie event in the faculty lounge with popcorn.
- Principal's report: Food fair today, lots of participation and "sell outs"; much needed spirit week for Homecoming events. Ended the grading period. Looking at student performance in departments and as an administrative team. Visiting classrooms to identify high-leverage practices that support all learners. Monday Professional Development day incorporated student voice, Tier 1 strategies (classroom strategies that support all students), and work related to our anti-racist and equity vision. We met at the Millbrae Rec center. Lots of great programming happening to the Rec Center if you haven't checked it out. October—one of the busiest months on the Viking Ship!

F . Annual Fund Requests & Updates, Ms. Duszynski/Mr. Sprecher, 4:55–5:15

- New Requests & Budget Review
 - Previous request follow up- drama prop request and math calculators
 - New Requests
 - Follow Up Conversation around Annual Fund messaging with PTO
 - Joy visited representing the Mills PTO to talk about planning for the Annual Fund. Goal is \$100,000 this year, with an ask of \$250 per student with 400 families. Want to get out to the community to provide sponsorships. Launch will be similar to last year to finalize, looking at

mid-November with announcements, reintroduce the Science Letter, updating raffles. In March, Mills Mania/Got Talent, have date in the next few weeks.

- Mr. Sprecher suggested to focus the discussion on the fundraising and where the funds go. Compared to what we spent last year, this year we have less amount. Last year, we purchased a lot of AV/High Def for rooms, .2 school counselor, club specific requests, classroom support/supplies. Given the funds we have this year, if we spent what we did this year just on the counselor and high def funds, it'd tap out our total budget. Part of the messaging is that we're supporting technology in the classroom, counselor support and so we wanted to approve those areas. We don't want to step on the understanding where the funds will go.
- Ms. Duszynski shared some of the spending and staffing requests with the group.
- Ms. Rustia shared that the Annual Fund is instrumental for MHS. Looking at past budgets, \$100,000 is a great target. Science looks forward to supporting the Annual Fund through the letter. We're able to offer some great (and essential supports for our students).
- Mr. Sprecher recommended a reserve for the .2 FTE counselor at \$36,000 for 2022-2023 school year. Ms. Rustia suggested that MPC shouldn't carry over the money but should spend down the amount. Joy can bring back the discussion to the PTO to see when funds raised can be donated back to the school.
- Ms. Dalmas is in favor of Ms. Rustia's idea to spend the money we have now and then maybe get funds from the PTO at the beginning of Jan/Feb to try to support the .2 FTE counselor request.
- Ms. Henry shared that the PTO is committed to the fundraising amount and will relay that messaging to the donors and is confident about fundraising, and if there is a need now for supports, we should spend the funds.
- Mr. Sprecher shared that we spend what we have now and then try to get support from the annual fund in January to continue to fund a .2 FTE school counselor. We can invite Ms. Henry back to February meeting.
- Ms. Duszynski gave a preview of our SPSA goals to bring back for the bulk of our November meeting.

Upcoming Events:

- Homecoming Rally, Game & Dance, 10/7-10/8
- Grove-a-Thon, 10/14
- Great ShakeOut, 10/20
- 8th Grade Family Night, 10/26
- Fall Play, *Shakespeare in Love*, 10/27-10/29

Items for next time:

- SPSA Goals

