

Tamalpais High School Site Council Minutes
Wednesday, March 17, 2021, from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. via zoom

Members in Attendance: Suzanne Alpert, Scott Birkestrand, Natalie Bitton, Nicholas Blechman, Luc Chamberlin, Laura Erickson, J.C. Farr, McKenzie Holtzapple, Shana Katzman, Laura Keaton, Adrian McCory

Guests in Attendance: Elaine Wilkinson, Sue Chelini, Carol Craft, Zoe Fry, Claire Conger, Artemis Frederick, Saranyu Nel, Emerson Rabow, Karin Hatton, Yvonne Milham, Mike Levinson

Call to Order: 3:00 pm by Suzanne Alpert

Introductions

Approval of the Agenda: Luc Chamberlin motions to approve the revised agenda. Nicholas Blechman seconds. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passes.

Approval of the previous meeting minutes: Laura Keaton motions to approve the agenda. Suzanne Alpert seconds. All in favor. None opposed. Motion passes.

Opener:

Alpert - 3 positive words about you.

Public Comment:

Sue Chelini and Carol Craft: Jewel Barrow location naming proposal

Chelini- Tam parent and former athletic coordinator, knows the community

- Jewel Barrow was hired in '68 here 48 years, para-educator and sports assistant; work to support students and sports (probably unaware of this proposal) - longest Tam district employee; golden bell winner 2008
- This proposal would be the 1st building named for a classified employee; the second named for a person of color.
- Considering the student center plaza or the steps
- Costs would be covered by the school
- If approved, goes to the superintendent then the board; if approved we appeal to Tam high foundation for funding.
- Naming can be anywhere highly significant to students. Carol, Sue and David Tarpinian put together proposal with testimonials (add link to flyer here)
- Tarpinian: retired teacher spent 27 years at Tam and Jewel had the most impact; an unsung hero
- This was approved may 2019 but covid delayed the progress

We are proposing lower Keyser be renamed "Barrow Hall" - we need to consider costs associated with renaming.

Luc Chamberlin moves to rename lower Keyser "Barrow Hall"; Laura Keaton seconds.
10 approve, no oppose or abstaining. This will now go to superintendent

Zoe Fry - artist in mill valley, 2 kids went through Tam ; vice president Patron of the Arts, involved in the diversity inclusion task force

- www.theintrovertscollective.com/perspectives
- Doors installed in Depot plaza for community to color like a coloring book
- Exploring past, present, and future topics around race in community
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- Would be located at the front of the school; from ASAP until rainy season (September/October)
- Hoping to secure funding for a new set of interactive doors - for TAM students to contribute to and to eventually be installed at local parks.
- The doors will be non-political and positive with messages curated by Fry.

Fry proposes that Tam host doors on campus; they will be anchored and graffiti coated. Additions can be added virtually and it will foster accidental learning from passersby as they read them.

Mckenzie Holtzapple motions to approve hosting doors in front of the school starting now - September - Luke Chamberlin seconds. 10 approve, no oppose or abstaining

NEXT STEPS:

- Farr contacts Fry

Claire Conger, Artemis Frederick, Saranyu Nel, Emerson Rabow (Supported by Karin Hatton & Yvonne Milham) Sexual Assault Task Force update:

Why?

- Every woman has experienced sexual assault, it is a daily occurrence on our campus. According to survey, majority are unaware of resources, unsure of support or mandatory reporting and feel unsafe with classmates.
- Instagram page @metooatTam has 205 submissions since August

What are we doing?

- Find a way to implement info about mandatory reporting consent and support resources.
- Produce FAQ resource
- teach about rights
- Improving school culture
- Advising teachers on how to teach consent and sexual assault prevention effectively.

Hopes:

- students feel safe on/off campus
- building trust with administration,
- distributing the consent book "ultimate guide to teaching about consent"
- teach about and prevent victim stigmatization

- recruit and expand task force since majority are seniors

Questions:

- Elane: have you reached out to other schools?
 - Most messaging is at the university level
- Susanne: can students get help through instagram?
 - There are resources posted and there's a new instagram with a survey and has been pushed out to teachers to administer the survey
- Adriane - how can younger students get involved?
 - Check out instagram, wellness center, and keep an eye out for poster with information
- Scott: counseling wants to work with you
- Shana: Instructors should make students aware that they are mandatory reporters - all tam staff are mandatory reporters.
- Elaine: how can parents support the work?

JC Farr and Mike Levinson: Social and Environmental Justice Academy

- District passed anti-racism policy and/are developing curriculum that speaks to environmental and racial justice. This would be an 11/12 junior/senior academy to complement existing classes while addressing issues in society surrounding race
- Actions and Service go along with the ED curriculum - 2-year progression, but students can't take just one year
- Based on the success of the 9/10 core program - students are already showing interest.

Questions:

- Mckenzie: what is the enrollment process?
 - Lottery to ensure equity accepting students of color and SPED
- Elaine: funding needed?
 - Probably the mini grant through THF
- Blechman: set curriculum or democratic buy-in;
 - students can help with project ideas, we want to collaborate interdisciplinarily

Reports:

Farr:

- Senior lunches and sign distribution
- safest place is in the classroom,
- students are happy and appreciative with a shifted perspective,
- social distancing is near-impossible but masks are kept on
- no bad interactions with correction to improper distancing
- virtual teachers are starting to return
- sports are causing issues, outbreaks are through sports but no transmission in classrooms.

Teacher Reports

Erickson:

- Open house seems to be more trouble than it is worth but
- We are really enjoying working with students in person.
- We're involving online students by pairing them with in-person buddies

Chamberlin:

- Exhausted.
- In-person experience is at the cost of neglecting Zoomers; it is tougher for the all-virtual kids.

Blechman:

- on paternity leave, but is still remotely teaching and collaborating

Birkestrand:

- submitting counseling coordinator grant to replace teacher leader model
- working through junior scheduling

Classified Report:

Keaton:

- office staff is glad to see students;
- finding coverage is tough

Parent/Guardian Reports:

Alpert: gratitude to all students and staff

Bitton: nice to see kids out and about, when and how are the AP exams going to be administered?

Katzman: glad to have students back in sports, and was unaware of the outbreaks!

Wilkinson: everyone is trying their best and she is very grateful

Student Reports:

Holtzapple: in-person instruction helps with focus, it's nice to see people, lunch is better than expected.

McCory: Students are struggling with cohort schedules but like lunch according to the survey.

Wrap up: Appreciations/feedback about the meeting

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.