

School Site Council Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 3:30pm at San Pasqual Union

Meeting called to order at 3:30.

Members Butolph, Legge-Beekman, Lopez, Mokhtari, Clark, Timpe, Burroughs and Grassy were present.

Members Graves and Vitale were not present.

Guests welcomed and the pledge of allegiance recited.

Hearing of the public. No comments shared.

Meeting began with discussion on bylaws; currently one teacher short.

- Questions about whether to assign a third teacher or amend bylaws to allow fewer than three.
- Decision: Mark will solicit for another teacher member.

Member Legge motioned to approve meeting Notes and Agenda. Member Burroughs seconded the motion. Motion passed 6/0.

Election of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson and Secretary.

- Member Grassy nominated as Secretary by Member Legge seconded by member Butolph, passed 7/0
- Member Legge was nominated as Chairperson by Member Lopez, seconded by Butolph, passed 7/0
- Member Graves nominated as Vice Chairperson by member Legge, seconded by member Clark, passed 7/0

Wellness plan review: 12 sections using model wellness plan from the Department of Health and Human Services.

- Need to check if other school policies are publicly available.
- Andrea Encinas suggested a no-candy policy on campus; easier to enforce a complete ban than limit candy.
- Proposed changes:
 - Replace Styrofoam cups.
 - Use syrup without coloring.

- Avoid warm food in plastic wrap.
- Inquiry about master gardener program and gratitude journaling for students.

Jessica Hurtado supported reducing candy consumption; efforts underway to remove red dye from slushies.

- Emphasized safe heating requirements for food.
- Legge noted \$2 for slushies is too expensive; suggested eliminating water bottles and donating lost and found to cafeteria to repurpose (suggestions from her students at SPU).

Discussion on initiative with EALP to help schools source farm-to-table nutrition and train kitchen staff.

- Jessica clarified no state restrictions on sugar; schools replacing food options gradually.

Vince mentioned governor's bill banning food dyes; encouraged promoting slushies over outside food and candy in the classroom. Middle school students generally indifferent to food types.

Options discussed: no food at all or an approved list of foods.

Legge emphasized need for a list of appropriate snacks for parents; advocates for a candy-free campus.

Lopez expressed surprise at sugar levels given to students; appreciates shift away from food rewards in her daughter's class.

Discussion on how sugar consumption may impact academic performance.

Bryn sought clarity on components being examined:

- Mark identified four areas:
 1. Kitchen food.
 2. Outside food from parents.
 3. Birthday treats.
 4. Candy rewards from teachers.

Legge questioned what modeling good behavior looks like; should teachers and staff follow the same guidelines?

Public comments:

- Mr. Rashid supports balancing healthy food choices with feasibility; mentioned startups for smarter food options.
- Bryn asked about food vendors: Goldstar (aligned with small farmers), Cysco, Hollandia.

Legge suggested reaching out for community volunteers to help prep healthy food; Mark to assess feasibility.

- Jessica reminded that all kitchen volunteers need a food handler's license.
- Lopez inquired about composting in the garden; Mark confirmed some composting occurs, but not extensive.

Mark concluded by encouraging additional input via email

Comprehensive Safety Plan:

Legal Requirements:

- Required by law.
- Developed with assistance from the School Safety Committee (SSC).
- Board-approved annually by March 1st.
- Always a living document, subject to updates and revisions.

Changes for 2023/2024:

- Consolidation into one plan with confidential information components removed from public view.
- More extensive and comprehensive content, now including 25 components.

Overview of Plan Sections:

- Mark provided an overview of the sections, highlighting which components are public and which are confidential.

Proactive Measures

- Safety Drills: Regular drills are conducted to prepare students and staff.
- Collaboration: Meetings with other schools and law enforcement to enhance safety protocols.
- Physical Security:
 - Lock blocks on doors.
 - Controlled entry systems that have proven effective.
 - Window blinds and films installed for added safety.
 - Increased surveillance with 25 cameras on campus.

Areas for Improvement

- Ongoing Risk Assessment: Continuous evaluation of potential risks.

- Training: Additional training for Incident Command (IC) members.
- Personalization and Operationalization: Tailoring aspects of the plan to fit the specific needs of the school community.
- Community Input: Incorporating feedback from community members and emergency responders.

Concerns and Discussion

- Mark's Inquiry: What is the most concerning risk to students, and how can we mitigate it?
 - Legge's Response: Public shooter scenarios are alarming but not the most rational risks.
 - Bullying and Aggression: Identified as the most immediate concern among students.
 - Bryn's Focus: Importance of training for educators to ensure they feel prepared during emergencies.
- Student Experience:
 - Legge shared an anecdote from her 8th grader about a frightening experience, emphasizing the need for comprehensive safety measures.
 - Drills during break times will be implemented for younger students with a structured timeline.
- Post-Incident Support:
 - Mark confirmed that the safety plan includes pre-, during, and post-incident protocols.
 - After recent incident, administration visited all classrooms to share information and provide context.
 - Mental health support was offered, with follow-ups from the school psychologist and social worker.
- Mental Health Focus:
 - Legge highlighted the need for preventative measures regarding students' mental health.

Wildfire Preparedness

- Collaboration with Fire Authorities: Burroughs recently met with Escondido Fire Chief and discussed geographical challenges.
- New App: Introduction of Genasys Protect for real-time alerts.
- CalFire Insights: Understanding that fires typically have a 2-3 hour lead time before reaching the school.

SSC Recommendations

- Focus on a combination of worst-case and likely scenarios while prioritizing prevention and training.
- Simplify the plan to make it more actionable and user-friendly.

Next Steps

- Re-engage with law enforcement for clearer response times and to strengthen partnerships.
-

Principal's Report

- **Solar Updates:** Locations likely to change due to soil testing results
- **Playground Enhancements:** Updates on the K/1 playground and the installation of lower playground monkey bars.
- **Kagan Cooperative Learning:** Improving academics and student connectedness.
- **RTI for TK-5:** Schedule aligned to support students without missing primary instruction in ELA and Math.
- **MS History Curriculum:** Seeking Board approval for supplementary curriculum addressing geography skills; collaboration with history teachers at SPHS highlighted a need for improved student perspective on world geography.

Member Comments

- Lopez: Watch Dog Dads- Soccer- Presence with the students
- Legge: Tree Grant
- Butolph: Eager to see the plan and review the plan
 - Burroughs shared that pieces to look at would include where the vulnerabilities are
- Timpe: shared comments from class that MS would
- Clark: Full agreement for no candy incentives

Meeting Adjourned at 5:22 pm

NEXT MEETING: 12/3/24