

Board Meeting 05/08/2025

This survey will be turned off at 3:00pm 05/08/2025, no late entries will be accepted.

Name:

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Address/Affiliation:

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Is this for Open Session or Closed Session?

☐ Open Session

☐ Closed Session

What is the agenda item(s) you would like to discuss?(To comment during the meeting, you must first complete a speaker card.)

math

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Comments:

Good evening, members of the board. Why were a group of Spanish-speaking families and students placed in front of the board to promote a math program with no prior parent engagement? No parent information was shared before this pilot; a parent meeting was scheduled but later canceled. This perpetuates a white savior complex, where marginalized families are expected to represent or defend an initiative they haven't had the chance to influence. How is this okay? Why can't there simply be a clear presentation of the supports that will be provided to families once this rolls out? Why does it have to be such a spectacle? This must be called out because tokenizing students and families to serve a predetermined narrative is unacceptable. All of a sudden, there are parents supporting the math pilot with very vague reasons. True equity requires decisions rooted in ongoing engagement with the communities most affected, not in using families as props. Whoever's idea this was should be held accountable. Focus on supporting families. The hard work will speak for itself.

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matemáticas

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Comments:

Buenas noches, miembros de la junta. ¿Por qué se colocó a un grupo de familias y estudiantes hispanohablantes frente a la junta para promover un programa de matemáticas sin la participación previa de los padres? No se compartió información con los padres antes de este programa piloto; se programó una reunión de padres, pero posteriormente se canceló. Esto perpetúa el complejo del salvador blanco, donde se espera que las familias marginadas representen o defiendan una iniciativa en la que no han tenido la oportunidad de influir. ¿Cómo es esto aceptable? ¿Por qué no puede haber una presentación clara de los apoyos que se brindarán a las familias una vez que esto se implemente? ¿Por qué tiene que ser un espectáculo tan grande?

Esto debe denunciarse porque usar a estudiantes y familias como simbolismo para servir a una narrativa predeterminada es inaceptable. De repente, hay padres que apoyan el programa piloto de matemáticas con razones muy vagas. La verdadera equidad requiere decisiones basadas en la participación continua con las comunidades más afectadas, no en usar a las familias como accesorios. Quienquiera que haya tenido la idea de esto debe rendir cuentas. Enfóquense en apoyar a las familias. El trabajo duro hablará por sí solo.

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Name:

Jennifer Mendoza

Address/Affiliation:

El Camino High School

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☒ Open Session

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What is the agenda item(s) you would like to discuss?(To comment during the meeting, you must first complete a speaker card.)

ALL Dance classes need PE credit

Comments:

I understand that Dr. Moore and the board approved PE for all dance classes, however, it is frustrating that some counselors are discouraging students to enroll. Is the PE credit information not accurate? If so, please clarify. MANY students would like take dance/advanced dance and are NOT afraid to put in the work, BUT are discouraged from enrolling due to lack of PE credits. This is a large reason why the dance program had a significant decline in enrollment. This year it was down to 70students, over a 50% decrease from last year's 150+ students. Please help us get more support for this program so all interested students can enjoy the performing arts without having to sacrifice credits.

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Name:

Jennifer Mendoza

Address/Affiliation:

ALL dance classes need PE credit and more support

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all ECHS dance classes = PE credit

Comments:

In regards to my previous comment, please give us more support for the ECHS dance classes and program by confirming that ALL dance classes are eligible for PE credit. This confirmation and information can assist our counselors/staff/teachers when they are giving guidance to our students. Many students want to join the dance classes, especially since Mrs. Stevenson is a highly skilled dancer instructor and very much respected by the students. Please help keep the performing arts alive!

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Name:

Jocelyn A Limos-Corpuz

Address/Affiliation:

117 Aldenglen Drive

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Dance not given PE credits and low enrollment for dance

Comments:

I have been a dance mom for an El Co dancer for 4 years and my daughter graduated in 2024. We still volunteer for the dance show and I was very surprised and disappointed that the classes are so small. The years I helped back stage we couldn't for all the students in without being packed like sardines! I come from a dance family and i know how hard the kids dance. They put blood, SWEAT and tears and countless hours into their performances. My daughter is known as the Practice Queen by Ms. Stevenson and it showed. They move their bodies just like they do in PE. It's just a different way of moving your body, not just running or playing a sport. I respect that because my son does that but respect dance the same way. Keep dance alive at El Co! One more thing, the community, yes the community who don't have children at the school know about the AWESOME DANCE SHOWS. I work for a South San Francisco based company and they know of the program when I've mentioned dance show. So yes, Keep our dancers dancing and let the other kids join dance too. Push dance when the kids are setting their schedules. Please don't take away dance and add it do they can get PE credits. Feliciano also had her credentials for PE. Thank you for listening and I hope to see bigger classes next year because we still volunteer.

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Name:

Jenny Liu

Address/Affiliation:

Parent

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Open Session



Closed Session

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Dance class PE credit

Comments:

Why does the dance program not have PE credit for the higher dance levels? The performing arts has program has enrollment dwindling down the last couple of years despite the kids telling their teacher that they want to take dance however have to decide which was more important: passion or school credits. Why can't it be both?

Ms Stevenson has been an asset to the school. The past shows had 80% sold tickets which funded the school. Past students has even returned to show support.

We need to make sure we're allowing student to do what they love and given credit for it. El Camino cannot afford to lose this program.

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Name:

Sandra Vergara

Address/Affiliation:

Parent of former student and volunteer for ECHS for 14+ years, as well as volunteer as needed for school district projects

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PE credit (lack thereof) for ECHS dance (upper level classes) AND dwindling number of students after Mr Lunt left

Comments:

Students are passionate about this program. Some have expressed the lack of PE credit or being steered towards other electives as reasons why they aren't taking dance classes yet they come to the shows etc. The number of students enrolled in dance dramatically dropped after Mr Kunt left. Why? What is going on? MANY former dance students from 10+ years (and recently graduates students) still come to volunteer. Many parents of former students (like myself) still volunteer. Why? 1)because our love for performing arts 2)because Ms Stevenson is one of a kind. Ms Stevenson is a certified PE instructor amongst many other things. A few students have gone on to be professional dancers. Seems like the school cares more about Athletics than Performing Arts. Why? How many professional athletes have they produced?

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Name:

Helen Rodriguez

Address/Affiliation:

1120 Mission Road, Apt. 1, South San Francisco

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Open Session

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Closed Session

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Dance Program at El Camino High School

Comments:

I'm hearing rumors that the dance program at El Camino High School has become smaller in recent years and could be in jeopardy of being canceled. I also hear it might have to do with students in the program not being given PE credits and being discouraged from taking dance classes. My daughter is a current freshman at El Camino and is part of the dance program this year and it has been one of the best high school experiences for her so far. Not only has she been able to exercise and do something she loves, she like she is part of family. Ms. Stevenson has been a great teacher and role model to her and her other students. It is apparent that she is loved like a second mom by her students. Please do what you can to ensure the dance program is not canceled and is being promoted/protected.

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Name:

Maria De Mesa Sabater

Address/Affiliation:

397 Imperial Way Daly City / Parent

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Open Session



Closed Session

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El Camino High School Dance Dept and PE credit

Comments:

From what I understand, PE credits no longer include taking the Dance 2-4 courses. I would like to share that this is a detriment to the high school program. This is going backwards in our time today. The El Camino dance program led by Ms. Feliciana Stevenson has changed the lives of so many generations. This program is well sought out by many of the students in our area; the dance program is a part of what makes El Camino what it is today. For the program to not be credited as PE class is absurd. It has all the criteria's for it to be credited as a PE class. To add, it allows even more than what a PE class would offer:

1. Creativity: Through choreography, the students can express themselves and be able to have the freedom to move with the guidance & mentorship of the teacher.
2. Mental Wellness: Because of the way Ms. Stevenson cares and understands our world today, she has a balance of mental wellness included in the program. This makes a world of difference to the students as she also comfortably ingrains in them that mental wellness and balance is necessary in our life. She teaches them how to do this which PE does not directly address. Our children in today's world need this very much as they have so much pressure to the idea of getting the 4.0 GPA and above. Ms. Stevenson is able to talk with the students about life and beyond.
3. Equality / Diversity: Ms. Stevenson has been able to embrace every student who has come to her classes and how they identify in our world today. Then, she is able to put the time and effort to provide the support each child needs to be the best version of themselves through dance. Because of this, they know by taking dance at El Camino HS, there is a safe place for all of them to be who they are. And not be confined into a PE uniform only.

Overall, the dance program is one of the pillars of El Camino. As an alumni parent who came from this program and a parent who strongly believes in Ms. Stevenson's value & purpose for each student, I strongly urge for the consideration of the dance program to be credited as a PE course. Thank you for your time & support.

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Name:

Connie

Address/Affiliation:

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Dance and PE Credit

Comments:

Good evening, I want to express my strong support for the dance program at El Camino High School and urge the Board to consider awarding PE credit to students who participate in it. Dance is so much more than just movement. It's a powerful form of expression that supports students' mental health, builds confidence, fosters teamwork, and provides an incredible physical workout. In fact, dance is recognized as fulfilling PE requirements in many other schools. It's disheartening that at ECHS, students are deterred from enrolling in dance simply because it doesn't count toward PE credit, even though they want to dance. Every year, the ECHS dance program puts on an amazing show that showcases the incredible dedication, discipline, and talent of these students. As an aunt whose niece graduated from ECHS, I still attend the shows because they are that inspiring. These students sweat, train hard, and in many ways exceed the physical demands of a typical PE class. I was also thrilled to hear that the dance group even had the opportunity to go to New York City what an unforgettable, enriching experience for them. The dedication Ms. Stevenson POURS out to these kids is mind-blowing! That is the reason she is THEE DANCE MOM! Unfortunately, the principal is not taking any steps to push for this change, so the community is coming together to support Ms. Stevenson and advocate on behalf of the students. Please don't take away this valuable opportunity. By awarding PE credit, you will encourage more students to participate in something that brings joy, personal growth, and wellness into their lives. Thank you for considering this.

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Grace Mesina

Address/Affiliation:

El Camino High School

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Dance program credit for PE

Comments:

The number of dance students have significantly decreased this year. In previous years, certain dance classes APD, DANCE 3/4 got PE credits. We'd like to bring that back. Ms.Stevenson is a certified PE teacher and yoga instructor, there's no reason her dance classes shouldn't be included as satisfying the PE requirement. She produces a dance show every year that is phenomenal with no founding support from the district. We are not asking for funding but support to promote dance program at ECHS.

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