

Redwood School Site Council Minutes
October 19, 2021 via Zoom Meeting, 3:30 pm

I. Introductions:

Members present: Nicole Judd, Paola Vargas, Dawn Jacobson, Tracy Rosenthal, Laura Detweiler, Zachary Snow, Corine Musgrove, Adam Payne, James Cook, Stacey Wasson, Leslie Chicas, Greg Saltzberg, Roya Klaidman, Christine Evangelista, Carrie Halvorsen, Melissa Crawford, Angie Biehl, Niki Wikstrom, Margo Tameris, Chakameh Azimpour, Lanisha Sunday, Chanise Spencer, Rachel Brusseau, Jennifer Rodman Plost, Matthew Evangelista (ASB)

Absent: Patricia Aguirre

- a. Nicole Judd reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the School Site Council and introduced new parent members –
 - Rachel Brusseau – Rachel will be serving on the SEDAC with Angie Biehl.
 - Chanise Spencer – Chanice is one of 3 representatives for AADAC.
 - Lanisha Sunday – Lanisha as well is one of 3 representatives for AADAC.

II. Approval of the Minutes:

Roya Klaidman made the motion to approve the September 2021 minutes, and Carrie Halvorsen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Public Comments:

- Roya Klaidman said that she had been volunteering with Abilities Awareness week and she was planning to lead this event next year, but was told today that it was no longer taking place and wondered why.
 - Mrs. Judd explained that schools received a memo and directive from the CVUSD district office noting that these types of activities can further re-offend and further marginalize those with other abilities, and that these activities should be stopped. She clarified that the concerns raised were directly related to the simulated activities that students would be doing. The district would like for schools to find other ways to raise awareness for disabilities other than these simulated activities, and asked that these be stopped. There will most likely be more discussion around this at the Principal's Meeting later today.
 - Carrie Halvorsen asked who specifically had issues with these activities and stated that she is bothered that there are some voices that took these activities away from our community because she believes these opinions are not indicative of the whole community as whole, but perhaps more based on personal experience. Mrs. Judd said that the letter came from the District as well as from parents of students with disabilities.
 - Greg Saltzberg and Chakameh Azimpour agreed with Carrie.
 - Mrs. Judd noted that many in our school leadership team have expressed concern that this was asked to be halted. She appreciates all the parents' comments.
 - Tracy Rosenthal asked if there is a way for families to share with the

district their concerns of this being cancelled. Mrs. Judd will look into this and get back to the group.

IV. Student Report: provided by Matthew Evangelista, ASB

1. Cases were decorated for October.
2. The second Classroom Rep Meeting was held October 1st.
3. Club Rush was Friday, October 8th - it was a great success.
4. Club table posters were distributed and Club Posters publicized the event.
5. IT, Custodial Appreciation Day, National Hispanic Heritage Month and Administrators Week were publicized.
6. Birthday Grams continue.
7. Announcements/Tech/and Snack Cart sales continue.
8. Boo! Grams are being sold before school, at nutrition and during lunch.
9. October Birthdays cards were distributed.
10. November Birthday cards are being made.
11. 6th Grade Gratitude posters were placed around school for all staff.
12. 6/7/8 are working on publicity: Abilities Awareness Week, Wacky Week, COTY: Halloween Poster/Wacky Wear, LTAs
13. The LTA Committee is working on Wacky Week activities: Eerie Eyeball Golf and Pumpkin Patch Relay and their scripts.
14. Weeklong (10/23-10/29) COTY Days have been scheduled:
Monday- Wacky Hat/Hair
Tuesday- Wacky Tacky Tourist Day
Wednesday- Wacky Neon Day
Thursday- Wacky Throwback Thursday
Friday- Halloween Costume and/or Wacky Wear Day
15. Halloween Cards/Boo Grams are being sorted.
16. Reminders about Wacky Week and Pumpkin Decorating Contest will be emailed this week to all staff.
17. Pins are being made to celebrate all events.
18. Wildwood Fall Festival sign ups continue.

V. New Business: None, other than what was addressed in committee and staff reports following.

VI. Redwood Boys and Girls Club:

- Leslie Chicas provided the update and said that over 135 kids are registered for Boys and Girls Club. The Club is excited that so many students are interested. There will be a Halloween party on October 29. There are also bring a friend day passes for any student at Redwood – friends can attend club for free on Fridays. Tracy Rosenthal asked how they were doing with scholarships this year and Leslie noted that they always have scholarships available through Safe Passage, and for anyone to please contact her if they have a student in mind, so that she can contact their parents to get students registered.

VII. Committee Reports:

- a. DAC (District Advisory Council) – provided by Carrie Halvorsen
 - The last DAC meeting took place on 10/12/2021.
 - The District’s dual immersion program (English/Spanish) is ready to go – it will be a school choice option for 2022 school year. We all should have received emails regarding this.
 - There was a full training for DAC representatives on the high school, middle school and elementary school experience as to what students are learning in Advisory.
 - Sonya Wilson from the district shared that there will either be a Zoom live or pre-recorded lesson on how to identify the needs of the students anonymously.
 - Regarding Wellness Rooms that are in the high schools, parents raised concerns that there may be services being offered to their students that parents are not aware of, but they were assured by the District that parents would be notified.

- b. GATE DAC (Gifted and Talented Education District Advisory Council) – provided by Melissa Crawford
 - The last Gate DAC meeting took place on 10/01/2021.
 - GATE Highlights for Redwood included –
 - GATE parent information night on October 7 – there was a pretty good turnout with lots of questions asked. Anyone that could not attend and would like more information can reach out to Ms. Salvoski.
 - 4th grade screening starts this week; Ms. Caswell is coordinating this.
 - The JPL virtual tour for middle school took place last week and is available on the District website if anyone is interested. Melissa will try to get a link out to everyone.
 - This week at Redwood – Poetry and Open Mic night starts today.
 - The next GATE DAC meeting is November 5.
 - The next Redwood GATE activity is November 9 and will be breakout boxes. More info will be communicated through Viking Voice and Mrs. Judd’s updates.

- c. ELAC (English Learning Advisory Council) – provided by Paola Vargas on behalf of Patricia Aguirre
 - The last DELAC meeting took place on 09/28/2021.
 - The new Director of EL services, Dr. Araiza, and new Secretary, Paola Navarro were welcomed.
 - Gary Bradbury presented an update on the COVID-19 safety plan.
 - Dr. Chamberlain presented an update on mental health services.
 - ELPAC (English Language Proficiency Assessments for California) was discussed during the last portion of the meeting – this assessment will be taking place between February 1 – May 31, 2022.

- d. SEDAC (Special Education District Advisory Council) – provided by Angie Biehl
- The last SEDAC meeting took place this morning, 10/19/2021.
 - Rachel Brusseau was also present today - she serves on the SEDAC as well and will be supporting Angie in this capacity.
 - SEDAC meeting highlights included –
 - A presentation from BCBAs Board Certified Behavior Analysts, who are employed by school district to provide consultation to staff, teachers etc. This presentation will be uploaded to the District and SEDAC websites.
 - Information was provided about ESR3 – the elementary and secondary school emergency relief fund.
 - The District raised the concern about Ability Awareness week at schools. This was already addressed by Mrs. Judd earlier in this meeting (see Section III, Public Comment). The idea is that going forward, schools find activities that are more positive and celebratory e.g., highlighting contributions made by persons with disabilities, during this school event.
 - Transition nights – these were mentioned last month and will be meetings hosted by the District to help students transitioning from TK to elementary, elementary to middle, and middle to high school.
 - The District’s new dual immersion program had already been noted in the DAC updated provided by Carrie Halvorsen. This program will initiate in August 2022 for Kindergartners.
- e. AADAC (African American District Advisory Council) – provided by Niki Wikstrom
- The last AADAC meeting took place on 10/15/2021. Chanise Spencer was present as well.
 - The main focus of the meeting was to form the Executive Board.
 - There was a lot of emotion among parents due to discussion of examples of many things going on in district schools where parents are feeling that their kids are not safe.
 - At the last Redwood SSC meeting, Niki mentioned about having something in place to report discrimination anonymously and making students and teachers aware and kids aware and teachers too. A lot of students are having a hard time identifying who may be a safe person at school to report discrimination incidents to.
 - AADAC is looking for artwork and trying to include pictures of kids in their poster. Questions arose around what the Board of Education allows us to say/what not to say.
 - The formation of the Equity Task Force was also noted.
 - It was noted that some things on the CVUSD website relating to COVID-19 resources had been moved around in response to parents having difficulty with quickly finding how to navigate COVID-19 related situations.

- Mrs. Judd explained that the Equity Task Force is focused on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Last year, this task force spent a lot of time on ensuring that there was diversity represented within the core literature curriculum.
 - Mrs. Judd noted that all Principals, Assistant Principals and counselors have training in this area, and that the task force is made up of district personnel, parents, community members. The website is very informative and they are looking for more parents to join.
 - Chanise Spencer shared feedback around the new clubs that have been formed, and noted the new Black Students Union (BSU) club. There had not been any interest and no BSU table during Club Rush, but she is hoping that the word gets out to students that would benefit from access to this group. Her student had since met with Mr. Zasadil and received a great flyer from him regarding BSU.
- f. LGBTQ+ Advisory Council – provided by Margo Tameris
- This last LGBTQ+ meeting took place on 09/21/2021 after our Redwood SSC meeting. Shauna Ashmore, Kenny Loo, Dr. McLaughlin and representatives from all 17 schools in the district were in attendance.
 - The main topic of discussion was creating a board for the functioning of meetings. This had not yet been done but was planned for the next meeting.
 - A few topics were proposed for further discussion, such as age-appropriate gender education, what would be appropriate teacher training curriculum / materials once the district rolls out this out, creating and implementing gender neutral bathrooms at all sites and topics related to mental health.
 - Corrine Musgrove noted that the PRIDE club on campus is growing.
 - Tracy Rosenthal said that she attended PRIDE club today and there were many students – it is most likely one of Redwood’s largest clubs. One of the staff interns accompanied a student who was nervous to PRIDE club today and sat and had lunch with them.
 - Last year there were only 5 students, so it is great to hear about the club’s growth.
 - Chakameh Azimpour said that her daughter attended PRIDE club to see what it was about and loved it - she wants to be an ally. Chakameh pointed out that you don’t have to be associated with any particular group to attend a club, but you can attend as an ally.
 - Chanise Spencer said that we should consider including the word “ally” on the Black Student Union flyers to encourage more students to attend.

VIII. Principal Update:

- a) SPSA – Accountability and Monitoring Tool Review
- Nicole Judd explained that part of our duty as an SSC is to monitor progress of implementation of our SPSA, i.e., our actions towards all of

the goals we have laid out and the best way to track and report what we are doing. As part of this, Mrs. Judd has started reaching out to faculty members to ask them to provide highlights at future SSC meetings. There will be a SEL highlight on what students are doing in Advisory, highlights on some of the new tools we are using such as Newzela etc.

b) Other updates –

- Mrs. Judd likes the format and flow of our new agenda with the reports given at the forefront of our discussions. This provides more time to share reports and whatever concerns are raised for discussion.
- September was a very busy month with many activities.
 - All vision and hearing screening was completed and we are grateful to the PE department for organizing this.
 - The Step it Up Fundraiser has concluded and we have raised about \$25,000 in donations for our school.
 - There will be another fire drill on Thursday again at lunch time for the Great Shakeout. This will be the 3rd evacuation and students know where to go.
 - Mrs. Judd has been in all of the new teachers' classrooms and is in process of doing informal observations.
 - Feedback on BSU and PRIDE clubs were welcomed and Club Rush was a success.
 - Teen Center Sports are in full swing and the students and families are having fun. Mrs. Judd encourages everyone to come out and cheer for our Redwood teams. We will most likely be in the soccer finals!
- The first Principal's meet and greet will take place this Friday at 9am, under the tree. Social media is the topic for this month and Tracy Rosenthal will be the guest speaker.
- Chakameh Azimpour had a question about the new system going from trimester to semester. Mrs. Judd explained and Mrs. Vargas provided an update in her report (next section). Mrs. Judd included information about this in her previous newsletter and explained that part of the reasoning behind the change is that the high schools are on the semester system. We have now gone from 6 progress monitoring cards to 8, and quarter 1 and quarter 2 will be combined together for a final semester 1 grade. We will receive progress 1 and progress 2 reports, then a report after winter break which will have the semester 1 grade.

IX. Assistant Principal Update:

- Paola Vargas explained the new semester system - Quarter 1 officially closes this Friday (10/22/2021) and Quarter 2 starts on October 25. Students will not see grades until October 29.
- Referral dates will be given for students with grades of Ds or Fs. Referral dates will be prior to progress reports, e.g., referral date then progress report for Quarter 1, then referral date and progress report for Quarter 2, followed by the Semester 1 grade. As Mrs. Judd has explained, the Quarter 1 grade

- continues into Quarter 2 with the final Semester 1 grade given on January 13.
- For next SSC meeting, Mrs. Vargas will have more D/F Academic Grade Data to report.

X. Dean of Activities Update:

Dawn Jacobson had to leave the meeting early but provided updates in the comments as follows –

1. Redwood's Teen Center Sports Teams are on fire this year! We are so proud of the kids and their coaches.
2. Red Ribbon Week is next week thanks to the partnership between ASB and PTSA. Students will be offered engaging activities to participate in during lunch each day.
3. Four of our students that entered the PTSA Reflections Contest qualified for the Council level: Tessa Whitman (Photography), Kinley Morehead (Literature), Avery Holmquist (Visual Arts) and Hailey Prince (Visual Arts). We congratulate all of the students!

XI. Old Business: none.

XII. Adjourn: 4:34pm