

**Redwood School Site Council Minutes
November 16, 2021 via Zoom Meeting, 3:30 pm**

The meeting was called to order at 3:32pm.

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, Chanise Spencer, Rachel Brusseau, Kinley Morehead (ASB)

Absent: Patricia Aguirre, Lanisha Sunday

I. Approval of the Minutes:

Stacey Wasson made the motion to approve the October 19, 2021 minutes. James Cook seconded the motion. Motion carried – October minutes were approved as read.

II. Public Comments: None.

III. Student Report: provided by Kinley Morehead, ASB President.

1. Cases were decorated for November.
2. The third Classroom Rep Meeting was held November 5th.
3. Classroom Reps received pins (to be used as pass).
4. Announcements/Tech/and Snack Cart sales continue.
5. Boo! Grams and Happy Halloween Cards were distributed on Oct. 29th.
6. Wacky Week was a blast. Many students participated.
7. COTY Costume/Wacky Wear was a success as well as the Pumpkin Patch Relay LTA.
8. We had many Pumpkin Decorating Contest entries. Student and staff voted for Most Creative, Funniest, Scariest and Grossest. Awards and Prizes were distributed.
9. November Birthday cards were distributed.
10. November Birthday Grams will be distributed throughout the month.
11. 6/7/8 are working on publicity for: Remember our Veterans. Classroom Rep Meeting, November COTY Class Color Wars, the LTA, Musical Chairs and Rebuilding Our Inclusive Community Together, week of December 6th.
12. Future Viking Night (virtual) was November 15th - 6th graders wrote and recorded a speech. Kinley (ASB President) recorded a Pledge of Allegiance video.
13. We are participating in:
 - Manna Food Drive 11/8-11/19
 - The Spark for Love Toy Drive 11/15-12/15
14. Pins continue to be made to celebrate all events.
15. Many ASB students volunteered for the Wildwood Fall Festival, Madrona Festival, and the Aspen Festival.

IV. New Business: None.

V. Redwood Boys and Girls Club (BGCC):

Update provided by Leslie Chicas -

- There are now over 140 students registered; this month there were 9 new members as of 2 days prior to this meeting. It is incredible to see how many students are enjoying the club and utilizing the facility that is here for them.
- A potluck for the kids is planned for November 19th.
- Redwood BGCC also participating in the Redwood's food drive for MANNA and will be bringing food collected over to the school.
- Leslie had spoken with Laura Detweiler about publicizing the TORCH club. ASB is helping to make posters which will include club information and will include all the students' names so everyone feels included.
- Boys and Girls Club will be open for Thanksgiving break at the Johnson site at Colina Middle School, from 8am to 5pm the week of November 22nd.

VI. Committee Reports:

- a. DAC (District Advisory Council) – report provided by Carrie Halvorsen
 1. The last DAC meeting took place on November 9, 2021.
 2. There was a review of the last CVUSD board meeting and it was noted that TK has been approved for all students by the state of California, and approved for all students in our school district at all school sites with the exception of EARTHS Magnet School because they currently do not have the space. This cost of this program is about \$12M.
 - Roya Klaidman asked whether all elementary schools will begin having TK in Fall 2022. Carrie replied that all elementary schools will do this with the exception of EARTHS Magnet School as they do not have the space at the moment.
 - Margo Tameris noted that the age requirement for admission had been lowered to allow not just students with Fall birthdays to attend, but to allow students to attend a full year of TK before entering Kindergarten.
 3. There was lengthy discussion regarding the school district's new Facilities Use Program which is a point of contention in our community right now. The district will be moving forward with a temporary resolution.
 4. The California State Senate passed a bill requiring every middle and high school that has a student health class to include mental health as part of instruction.
 5. The Thousand Oaks Library provided an update on current activities, some of which include a book club for girls called Girls Read, Dog Days and the In and Out Burger rewards reading program.
 6. The DAC representative from Walnut Elementary School mentioned that the TO Arts program still has funding available for different schools and programs and shared that Walnut had received a large donation for their dance program.

7. Kenny Loo spoke about the dress code survey that went out on November 8th in the CVUSD snapshot communication and wanted to make sure everyone takes the survey.
 8. SEDAC gave a presentation about the physical stimulations that were planned for Abilities Awareness week and provided suggestions on how they would like to see this event move forward within the district from here onwards.
 - There was some discussion about cancellation of Redwood's Abilities Awareness week. Kenny Loo said that he and Dr. Miller were responsible for requesting the cancellation and shared that they would most likely have a different approach to this than was taken this time around. Carrie asked that the district work with parents to understand our ideas and all of the planning that goes into events such as these before abruptly cancelling them.
 - There is a meeting scheduled with Mrs. Judd, our PTA, Carrie and anyone else who would like to participate in bringing back Abilities Awareness week in a manner that would utilize how it has historically been done but conduct this in the way that SEDAC has requested.
- b. GATE DAC (Gifted and Talented Education District Advisory Council) – report provided by Melissa Crawford
1. The last Gate DAC meeting took place on November 5, 2021. The following items were discussed -
 2. ESSER funding – further discussion will take place at the December GATE DAC meeting.
 3. GATE testing and screening for 4th grade and student referrals will be completed by next week.
 4. Different Math pathways in high school – one of the representatives brought up the need to better understand these pathways and how students might skip a grade without taking the Math Challenge exam. More will be discussed on this and the timing of the Math Challenge exam will be discussed at the next meeting in December.
 5. Events –
 - There was a virtual event for elementary and middle school students with author Frank Cole on November 9th.
 - At Redwood's Digital Breakout Boxes GATE in person event, 18 students attended. The session was led by Ms. Salvoski.
 - Upcoming GATE activity at Redwood – DASH Robots on December 7th.
- c. ELAC (English Learning Advisory Council) – report provided by Paola Vargas on behalf of Patricia Aguirre
1. The last DELAC meeting took place on October 26, 2021.

2. A COVID-19 update was provided by Gary Bradbury. He shared about timing of the COVID-19 vaccination which will be required for in-person learning and when this could possibly come into play; this is expected to be around July 1 2022 but no date has been finalized as yet. The staff requirement will be in place the same time as requirement for students is effective.
 3. The mask mandate continues to remain as is and the council is continuing to monitor conditions through winter.
 4. Dual language immersion (DLI) – this is planned to start at Conejo Elementary - this consists of instruction for native English speakers and speakers of other languages. Students will most likely learn in Spanish for first half of day and English the second half of the day.
 5. Benefits of DLI for English learners were also discussed – some of these include that it improves cognitive skills, reduced high school dropout rate, increases empathy, increases job opportunities and is aligned with CVUSD program which has a goal to roll this out to middle schools and high schools but will take some time to complete roll out for elementary school at one grade per year.
 6. DELAC bylaws were discussed – purpose, offices, bylaws and positions available.
- d. SEDAC (Special Education District Advisory Council) – report provided by Angie Biehl
1. The last SEDAC meeting took place this morning, November 16, 2021. Key points of discussion and updates were as follows –
 2. In honor of National Inclusive Schools Week, the week of December 6th, the district would like to recognize 5 inclusion heroes at the December 14th board meeting. Anyone can nominate a teacher, staff member etc. for their commitment to inclusivity. Nominations are due by Dec 3rd.
 3. There was a reminder that bus tracking is available; many families who have students that take bus to and from school can track their student's location. There is a link on the CVUSD website under the Quick Links drop down menu.
 4. Mr. Kenny Loo gave a presentation on SEL (social emotional learning), reviewing the definition and goals and provided a board overview of different instructional approaches by grade span as well as discussed approachability to SEL instruction.
 5. There is an upcoming parent survey, created by CVUSD, to gather input on ways to address learning loss caused by the pandemic via special funding.
 6. The SEDAC Chair, Erin Bell, spoke about her presentation to DAC. She shared with DAC what SEDAC is, the purpose and vision, collaborations within CVUSD and also highlighted some of the committees, SEDAC representative onboarding, ESSER and discussed disability simulations. She noted that although these were started with good intentions, there were unintended negative effect and cited recent studies in a slide show.

She recognized everyone that put time into planning for Abilities Awareness week and asked everyone to continue to work on opportunities for genuine friendships that are meaningful for all rather than simulating a disability by borrowing a wheelchair for a few minutes. SEDAC will be looking at other opportunities to highlight disabilities. Angie will have a link to Erin's presentation to be included in the next DAC newsletter.

- e. AADAC (African American District Advisory Council) – report provided by Niki Wikstrom.
 1. The next AADAC meeting was scheduled to take place on November 19, 2021. There was nothing new to report at this time but Niki asked some general procedural questions including when would be the appropriate time to ask specific questions or share comments. Mrs. Judd replied that this can be done during the Public Comment section of the agenda.
 2. General questions and discussion included –
 - Date of Future Lancer Night for TOHS. Mrs. Judd said that this usually takes place in the spring. Mr. Payne confirmed that this year, this will take place on December 9th at 6pm and will be a virtual event.
 - Status update on the Black Student Union on Redwood's campus. Niki was interested to know whether meetings were happening and students attending so she can report back to the AADAC. Mrs. Judd said that one student was interested at this time, and that Mr. Zasadil is working with Ms. Thomas and the group at TOHS on an effort to bring both groups together as an opportunity to guide Redwood's work with students and recruit other students that may be interested. Mrs. Judd relayed that there is limited student interest at this time. Niki spoke with 2 AADAC rep at Los Cerritos who shared that there were 14 students at their first meeting. Niki volunteered to connect with Mr. Zasadil and connect both groups. Mrs. Judd will let Mr. Zasadil know that Los Cerritos has interest there so he can pursue this connection.
 - Redwood's plans for celebration of Black History Month. Mrs. Judd replied that this will consist of lessons in history classes, announcements via student announcements – celebratory conversations through that forum. Ms. Jacobson shared that last year, posters of African American heroes were displayed throughout the campus. Niki would like to meet to discuss how the planned celebrations and activities could be enhanced and Ms. Jacobson was happy to have her support and input.
 3. Chanise Spencer also commented regarding the BSU. She will not be able to attend the Principal's update on Friday, but is hoping that Mr. Zasadil will share about what he is doing in his role to support BSU. Chanice noted that she was not sure there is a lack of student interest, but maybe more a lack of information currently available for interested students who may want to get involved.

- f. LGBTQ+ Advisory Council – report provided by Margo Tameris
 - 1. This last LGBTQ+ meeting took place on October 27, 2021.
 - 2. Executive board position introductions were done as these positions have now been officially assigned.
 - 3. There was some discussion about an incident at Newbury Park High School regarding National Coming Out Day, where several representatives offered their perspectives.
 - 4. The council discussed how they might publicize events sponsored by PRIDE clubs and GSAs (Gay-Straight Alliances).
 - 5. There was discussion around whether it would be okay for students to have their names changed on school forms to reflect preferred names, whether gender status on school forms could be updated, whether there could be updated requirements for events like school photos and school clubs where students may not want to wear the assigned gender specific clothing expected of them, etc.
 - 6. Future agenda items discussed included CHYA (California Healthy Youth Act) and the Fair Education Act, how to measure the impact this council and the community has, discussing information from Teen Talk and how this can be used to improve situations as we move forward and getting a better idea of how this is working

VII. Principal Update:

Nicole Judd shared the following announcements –

- 1. She and the staff wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Mrs. Judd is thankful to us for our service to Redwood as parent volunteers and of course to the staff. She took a moment to appreciate all of the different DAC representatives. She is impressed with their parent leadership in council meetings and what they bring to SSC; she attends these as much as she can, and will try to get to GATE DAC. Mrs. Judd noted that it is important for her to get different perspectives from the different DAC groups and parents.
- 2. Today was the first Stellar Student awards on campus that celebrated students for academic achievements in the classroom. Ms. Jacobson organized this; the muffins provided by child nutrition services were amazing.
- 3. Future Viking Night took place last night in virtual format. There were almost 100 parents in attendance. Redwood had put together a nice webinar and Mrs. Judd received feedback from parents afterwards. The website should be referenced for additional information. School tours are starting in every other Friday in January and ASB students will be helping out.
- 4. This week we received a very exciting email with the news that we were awarded a \$25K grant for the planning involved to create an official Career Technical Education (CTE) pathway to TOHS, connecting us to ETHOS program at TOHS. It is called the REAL Academy. This grant is for the planning stage; we would receive more funding for the implementation phase. Corrine Musgrove has been spearheading these efforts. We are really excited – it will take a lot of work. Mrs.

Judd explained that CTE creates a pathway for students to entrepreneurship. Ashley Cooper worked with Corrine to put proposal together.

- Carrie asked when we could anticipate this pathway to start; Ms. Musgrove relayed that at this time, we do have one elective rotation, but the grant is for us to plan this year then fully integrate the program next year. The program will be rolled out for 6/7/8 grade next year. This year it will be limited to 7/8 grades.
5. Road trip for monitoring; Mrs. Vargas will share some data with us that may be intimidating – she will share our D and F data for students not progressing academically and will share stops on our “road map” to help students that are not successful in the classroom.

VIII. Assistant Principal Update:

Paola Vargas shared the following information -

1. Progress Monitoring Report –
 - The D/F student list and data analysis was shared and was broken down by grade as well as by disadvantaged groups.
 - For Q1, based on 736 students. 6 students had received D/Fs in all 6 classes. Some of these students have not attended school as yet this year, or have attendance issues. 6 out of 9 students were designated homeless.
 - The data is overwhelming at first look, however the data not consistent with previous years' data because we changed from trimesters to quarters. There is still time to help students improve and these are the methods that are being used -
 - Guided Studies class. There are 13 students in one class and 15 in the other. This class is basically like study hall where the teacher there is helping with getting homework done and doing some individualized tutoring. It has been nice to see some students graduating out of those classes. A total of 6 students have moved out and others have moved in. Guided Studies is considered an elective, so if students move out of this class, they can choose a different elective.
 - Math Advisory. There is a section for 7th and section for 8th grade. This is offered twice a week and provides 50 extra minutes of Math support. This in in similar fashion to Guided Studies, where students doing well will graduate to make space for others. Some students are not taking advantage of this opportunity even after meeting with them and parents.
 - IXL for Math. All students are able to access IXL for 30-60 minutes daily in most classes. Homework involved using IXL to review, relearn and practice new math concepts daily.
 - Ms. Wasson clarified that IXL has 2 parts – 1) Diagnostic – most students have done this and finished this; IXL has identified areas of weakness or areas to expand learning 2) to supplement day to day instruction with small snippets of topics. Ms. Wasson does not assign these to her honors students, but some are used for review and some to supplement what is

being taught in class at the time. This is available to students during school hours as well as out of school hours.

- Carrie Halvorsen asked whether it was possible with the 7-period day to require the 7th period be for students who need time for extra instruction. Mrs. Vargas replied that we cannot require this, as the 7-period day is for students taking 2 electives, like ASB + performing arts etc.
- Carrie Halvorsen also asked whether there is an option to offer Guided Studies as a 7th period class? Mrs. Judd replied that this is an intervention strategy that some schools have used to require students to come to school for additional periods. While we did not put that into our plan this school year, we can do this. We just need to make sure we have a teacher assigned and it is a paid position. We cannot ever require a student to do 7 classes, but we can offer this as an intervention. As per Mrs. Judd, it is difficult to tell students who are already struggling to stay for another period of school each day. If we utilize the Elective slot for this, it takes away an elective from these students, but if they use Advisory, students are already there for that. We also have Tuesday mornings and currently, teachers are discussing how to perhaps use that time for additional intervention.
- Many of the D/Fs are students who are struggling academically in Math are English learners but Math Advisory has been a success.
- Rachel Brusseau asked about the size of class and Mrs, Vargas replied 15 in one and 13 in the other. Rachel also asked how students' progress was being measured and communicated to parents. Ms. Wasson replied that all of the Math teachers are using it and this is the program we have for Math specifically. All teachers have shared with parents in some context that their students are doing this diagnostic and what it means. There is some paperwork on how to interpret a diagnostic score when received, assuming parents know that they can go to CVUSD Launchpad and click on IXL to see where their students are at. Rachel was not sure that parents were aware of this or know where to access this, so maybe this something that can be publicized more. Ms. Wasson can put together some communication to address this.
- Additionally, Mrs. Vargas noted the following -
 - On Tuesday mornings, help with homework is offered for students from one of English learning paraeducators; she meets in library with students who show up for this.
 - Our counselors are working with the administration team and students when patterns of D/F are seen, and may schedule a Student Success Team (SST) meeting.
 - Moving forward, we are always looking at new ideas, for example, maybe adding a 6th grade advisory support class. Having advisory twice a week is helpful. During CPT on Tuesdays, use of this time for teachers to meet and collaborate, within their grade levels or departments, to share on what may be working well for one but not for

- the other. This is very beneficial for both the teachers and students.
- Addressing a previous point raised by Roya Klaidman as to in which subjects the Ds and Fs are specifically, Mrs. Judd acknowledged the question and agreed that a deeper dive into the D/F data is needed to understand the root cause of these grades so we can better strategize on how to help students.
 - Also, Mrs. Judd attended the 6th grade team meeting a month ago. She noted that not all 6th graders are in elective wheel but they're designated Tuesday/Thursday as homework help time, where, instead of doing electives they are working on homework. Students have expressed to their teachers how much they enjoy and love this time. Additionally, there is no numerical data to show for this, but teachers and staff are tired and students are tired too. Everyone is still acclimating back to a full school day so we need to build back up students' stamina bit by bit to the longer day.
 - Rachel Brussuea also inquired about getting D/F data on GATE students so that this can be relayed to the district. Mrs. Judd will include this as GATE is not currently included in the analysis.

X. Dean of Activities Update:

Dawn Jacobson shared the following announcements and updates –

- Fall Season with the TO Teen Center is ending this week. We are so very proud of all our student athletes – the skills they've learned, what they've learned about themselves and their perseverance.
 - We are especially proud of our Boys Soccer team and our 8th grade Girls Volleyball team – they are both champions for the entire season and will be awarded banners which will be displayed in our gym for years to come.
 - A special thank you to parent volunteer and DAC representative Carrie Halvorsen who served as volleyball coach.
- Winter league begins right when we return from winter break. Winter sports will be Boys Volleyball (Greg Saltzberg will be coaching) and Girls Basketball. We are still looking for a coach for basketball.
- Kinley did a great job summarizing what students have been doing over the last month. ASB does so much to support all our school's endeavors. Over the last few weeks, students they have been planning for Inclusive Schools Week which will take place December 6th – 12th. As part of this, there will be focused lessons in every class every day, and a lesson in Advisory. Parents are encouraged to email Ms. Jacobson if they are interested in being a part of the planning for that week.
- Redwood will have our first Social, a Dance, on February 4th with a DJ! This will be split into 2 groups – 6th grade will have their own social followed by a social for 7th/8th graders. Steve will be our DJ and the event will take place outside in the quad. Parents are encouraged to email Ms. Jacobson if they have ideas or are interested in helping.

XI. Old Business:

a) Abilities Awareness Week -

Nicole Judd continued the conversation from last meeting and shared the following updates –

- After our October SSC meeting had adjourned, some parents stayed back to share their thoughts on the cancellation of Abilities Awareness Week.
- Roya Klaidman has volunteered to chair Abilities Awareness Week next year.
- On December 2nd, there will be a virtual meeting with Dr. Wilson via Zoom, to talk about what happened this year and to discuss planning for next year. Parents are encouraged to reach out to Mrs. Judd if interested and she will share the Zoom meeting link.

XII. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 4:46pm.