

Redwood School Site Council Minutes August 31, 2021 via Zoom Meeting, 3:00 pm

I. Introductions

Members present: Nicole Judd, Dawn Jacobson, Tracy Rosenthal, Laura Detweiler, James Cook, Zachary Snow, Leslie Chicas, Corine Musgrove, Stacey Wasson, Adam Payne, Angie Biehl, Melissa Crawford, Roya Klaidman, Christine Evangelista, Patricia Aguirre, Rekha Krishnankutty (taking notes).

Absent: Paola Vargas, Chakameh Azimpour, Greg Saltzberg

Nicole Judd reviewed the roles and responsibilities of the School Site Council.

II. Approval of the Minutes:

Stacey Wasson made the motion to approve the June 2021 minutes, and Christine Evangelista seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Public Comments:

Dawn Jacobson voiced that faculty, staff and students are very happy to be back on campus together.

Rekha Krishnankutty voiced concerns about COVID 19, including notification emails, contact tracing, and the importance of instructional support for students who are out on quarantine. Nicole Judd noted that Redwood is trying very hard in all of these areas. She noted that there is no requirement for teachers to offer quarantined students the option to attend classes via Zoom, and that students are provided short term independent study packets when they cannot be at school due to COVID 19. She noted that last year Zoom learning was also not perfect and had its issues. She noted that there are currently 8 students at RMS positive for COVID 19, and approximately 12 students who are on quarantine (both required and also voluntarily). Rekha voiced that students on quarantine would greatly benefit from having access to classes via Zoom.

Roya Klaidman also voiced concerns regarding the possible risks of COVID 19, and cited uncertainty about whether chorus was requiring masks. Nicole Judd answered that any indoor activities require mask wear. She also noted that outdoor activities at school such as lunchtime are very difficult to contact-trace, and that the school relies on a COVID-positive student to provide information on close exposures in the outdoor setting. Roya also mentioned that on the current CVUSD COVID 19 dashboard charts, there is no longer a column to specify whether a positive case was contracted at school vs outside school. Rekha Krishnankutty asked, and Nicole confirmed that the non-requirement for teachers to provide Zoom learning for quarantined students is district-wide and not specific to RMS. Nicole also noted that no teacher is restricted from offering a Zoom option for quarantined students.

Roya also voiced concern about the difficult pick up situation after school, and Nicole Judd agreed with those concerns. Nicole noted many different strategies over the years to try to improve the safety and proper flow of traffic after school.

IV. Student Report: Reported by Laura Detweiler

1. 8/10-Viking Camp Training
2. 8/11- Viking Camp-well attended and well received
3. 8/11 and 8/12- ASB students volunteered at Orientation
4. Cases were decorated for August/September
5. 8/18- WEB Leaders welcomed the 6th graders
6. 8/18-6th Grade Ice Cream Social -WEB Leaders, teachers and PTSA volunteered.
7. 8/19-7th/8th Grade Ice Cream- 7th/8th ASB, teachers and PTSA volunteered
8. 8/24- Kobe Bryant Day- dressed in Laker Gear/Gold and Purple
9. 8/27- Meet and Greet the ASB Officers. All candidates ran uncontested.
President- Kinley Morehead
Vice President- Allie Shapiro
Secretary- Gwen Hunnicutt
Treasurer- Shane Crawford
10. Announcements/Tech/Snack Cart Schedules have been created- students will begin week of 8/30
11. COTY and LTAs have been scheduled
12. Birthday Grams are in process
13. 6th Graders are working on July/August and September Birthdays
14. 6/7/8 are working on publicity: Meet and Greet/Congratulations to our elected officers and upcoming September events
15. COTY Counters have been assigned
Upcoming:
9/3- Classroom Rep Meeting
9/10- COTY Patriotic Day- Wear Red, White and Blue
9/10- LTA- Trivia Pie Suit

V. New Business:

a) RMS SSC needs a parent to be the DAC representative; Nicole Judd asked the group to inform her of any interested parents.

RMS SSC needs two parent members-at-large to volunteer to be Vice Chair and Secretary.

Roya Klaidman volunteered her own nomination to be Vice Chair.

Christine Evangelista volunteered her own nomination to be Secretary.

Nicole Judd requested a vote for both positions, and both parents were voted in.

Nicole also wanted to confirm which parent-members would be voting members.

Current voting parent members are Roya Klaidman, Christine Evangelista and Chakameh Azimpour. It was confirmed that Angie Biehl and Melissa Crawford would be the additional 2 voting parent members, and that Patricia Aguirre would be the alternate voting parent member.

b) Nicole Judd noted the SSC needs to meet a minimum of 6 times over the school year. She asked the group about skipping the December 2021 and April 2022 meetings, due to the school holiday breaks. There was general consensus on this plan

for meeting dates.

VI. Principal Update: SPSA

Nicole Judd reminded the group that at the last meeting, the 5 goals of the SPSA were agreed upon. Today we were to discuss the “actions to be taken” to reach these goals. She also reminded the group that SPSA is continually undergoing adjustments over the course of the year.

Goal #1 Improved learning in English-Language Arts (ELA)

Action items: teacher “wishlist,” Achieve 3000 and Rosetta Stone for ELD students, professional development in Universal Design for Learning (UDL), Faculty clerk position, new core literature titles to improve diversity in literature, “Whooo’s Reading” independent reading program, funding for miscellaneous technology expenses, lesson guides for teachers in the new social studies curriculum, field trip for RMS students to visit ETHOS program at Thousand Oaks High School, targeted CAASSP preparation for students, professional development for coteaching, Zoom meeting for principals of feeder elementary schools in regards to students with disabilities (SWD) and IEPs, CPT time for teachers to collaborate within and across departments and grade levels while tracking student progress, targeted reading intervention during Thursday advisory period (planned for Spring 2022), least restrictive environment (LRE), CAPS Network membership/fees for department chairs, implementation of REAL (Redwood Entrepreneurship Academy for Learning), release time for special education teachers, data review for all special student populations, Dean collaboration with parent GATE-DAC rep, Assistant Principal collaboration with DELAC parent rep, Principal collaboration with SEDAC parent rep, Dean collaboration for McKinney-Vento and Foster students, Guided Studies Program, and English Language support including EL paraprofessionals, translation assistance and materials.

Christine Evangelista asked whether charter elementary school principals are included in the SWD Zoom meetings with RMS; Nicole Judd feels that they should be included from now on.

Melissa Crawford asked, and Nicole Judd noted that quarter and semester start/end dates are accessible on the CVUSD calendar, which is available at the end of the electronic newsletter, the Viking Voice.

Goal #2 Improved learning in Math

Action items: IXL program (Nicole Judd thanked Stacey Wasson for spearheading the effort to access this program, which will now be used district-wide for the middle schools), ongoing targeted math advisory for 7th/8th grade students (plan to add 6th grade for 2nd semester), 8th grade math coteaching, “STEMscopes” online supplemental labs, office hours for students, and curriculum alignment. See SPSA for additional action items.

Goal #3 Parent Engagement

Action items: stipend to create and send out Viking Voice, staff member to update RMS

website, SEDAC outreach, encouragement of parent attendance to various DAC meetings, PTSA, Progress reports on Q, targeted notices of D/F grades.

Christine Evangelista asked whether any parent can attend the RMS SSC meetings; Nicole Judd acknowledged that although any parent can request a zoom invitation to make public comments, this could be more widely publicized.

Goals #4 Student Engagement and well being

Action items: Social-emotional learning curriculum will now be provided during Wednesday Advisory by our 2 counselors using “Castle” and “Second Step;” communication directly to student emails with weekly announcements (such as available school clubs and “Club Rush” event at school), WEB activities, “Mentor a Viking” program, Teen Center sports, ASB-organized activities, non-punitive measures for addressing student issues, encouragement of participation in performing arts, GATE activities, inclusion activities like Abilities Awareness Week.

Angie Biehl asked whether students are rewarded for school attendance despite risks of coming to school ill during the pandemic. Nicole Judd answered that there is support and encouragement for chronically absent students to improve their attendance, but that there are no general incentives for attendance.

Christine Evangelista asked whether perhaps more funding should be allocated to student well-being. Nicole Judd replied that perhaps we could utilize district funding for wellness programs similar to those offered at the high schools.

Rekha Krishnankutty suggested that publicizing the safety measures in place for student activities, such as the performing arts like chorus and band, may encourage parents to feel safer having their students participate.

Goal #5 Learning Loss in ELA and Math

Action items: News-ELA (cross curricular program that includes ELA, science and Social Studies), “Whooo’s Reading” targeted to 6th grade and CP 7th grade students, Delta Math (provides video explanations),

**Nicole Judd asked the group for feedback on the SPSA, and also asked whether we could approve the SPSA today. James Cook made a motion to approve the SPSA, Tracy Rosenthal seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VII. Assistant Principal of Instruction Update: none

VIII. Dean of Activities Update: Dawn Jacobson updated the group throughout the meeting in the context of the SPSA.

IX. Redwood Boys and Girls Club: Leslie Chicas noted that the club at RMS is open 7am-6pm daily. They currently have approximately 100 students enrolled. 10 days passes are available in addition to the lunch club, after school and morning programs.

Registration can be done online and is required for all of these programs.

X. Committee Reports

- a. DAC: parent rep position is still open.
- b. GATE DAC: Melissa Crawford has not yet attended a meeting.
- c. DELAC: Patricia Aguirre has not yet attended a meeting.
- d. SEDAC: Angie Biehl attended the 1st meeting of the year on 8/24/21. The following items were discussed: 1) CVUSD is trying to fill vacancies among needed positions for special education. These include the need for speech-language pathologists (SLPs), occupational therapist (OT), special education teachers, and there is a severe need for paraprofessionals. 2) Wellness rooms at the high schools, 3) methods of communication (web, email, social media, Q, CVUSD app), 4) A/B schedule for CVUSD leadership to be able to attend the increasing number of committee meetings, every other month instead of monthly, 5) School bus tracking online.

XI. Old Business: none

XII. Adjourn: 5:27pm