

Sequoia Middle School - School Site Council

Agenda for Meeting on January 22, 2025

7:30 a.m. Sequoia Library

7:30 a.m.

1.0 Call to Order at 7:32 am

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Approval of Agenda Date change from January 15th, 2025 to January 22nd, 2025. Motion approved. Motion seconded.

4.0 Approval of Minutes for November 20, 2024 Motion approved. Motion seconded.

5.0 Public Comments - None

7:40 a.m.

6.0 Student Report - None

6.1 Administrator/Counseling Report

Nichols - When a power outage occurs, Sequoia does have a Tesla generator that provides about a full day of power. Motivational speaker coming to Sequoia to talk about Resilience - Tim Heeley. We had an inclusive schools speaker as well during inclusive schools week. Updates to student ID cards will be taking place next school year with a link or access to Health care facilities, non emergency numbers, and mental health hotline numbers. There will be a non evacuation earthquake drill today as well.

Didomizio - Sequoia is selected for an assembly on February 22nd with OneShine.

Welch - Semester 1 had 500 students earn Renaissance and will be receiving awards on January 23rd during CREW. 8th Grade Grades for English and Math include 40 8th graders who will need to meet with administration to earn eligibility for promotion activities. Across all grade levels over 80% of students are passing Math and English

6.2 SPSA updates (DiDomizio)

Goal 1 - all about academics; Math and English are focusing on interim assessments on ELA and Math so that students are familiar with the platform, how questions are presented, and getting used to taking a test online.

Goal 3 - SEL Connection; Our theater program is getting ready for Frozen Musical

Goal 5 - CSA Goal; Looking to fill CSA's during spring.

6.3 IB Update (Hochevar)

Crafted a new mission statement with an IB committee of teachers at Sequoia that blends Sequoia and IB philosophies. Also working on assessment, academic, inclusion, and academic integrity policies.

Discover program will continue until Sequoia is fully authorized as an IB school. The 2025 - 2026 school year is when there could be a change to verbiage of school choice to let parents know that the Discover Program will start to have changes as Sequoia transitions to IB.

Martens - Peer tutoring is continuing for students who need additional academic support.

7:50 a.m.

7.0 Representative reports

7.1 DAC – Ed Shatzen

For the SMS SSC meeting of January 22, 2025

From the District Advisory Council Meeting, Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Key takeaways:

1. Community organizations came to present to DAC. Teachers and school staff with direct contact with students are able to make referrals for students to BreakThrough Counseling, which connects students with additional direct support and a community of robust and well-connected resources. CVUSD Community Resource List
2. The Conejo Closet is open to all CVUSD students and families and is stocked entirely by community donations and the support of Conejo Schools Foundation.
3. Adelante is a non-profit, grassroots, volunteer-run organization that provides a monthly fresh marketplace and food pantry with community resources for anyone in the community. Twelve- to sixteen-year-old students, with parent/guardian supervision, may volunteer with Adelante.
4. Ventura County Health Care Agency can provide presentations for schools, free Narcan kits to anyone over 18, and support for anyone in the community to obtain healthcare.

5. Conejo Recreation and Park District's Teen Center organizes middle school sports and provides free drop-in, supervised recreation services for children 6th-12th grade, with facilities including updated outdoor areas for skateboarding, basketball, and entertainment

DAC Representative report to the 1/22/2025 SMS SSC

District Advisory Council (DAC)

The latest updates from our Tuesday, December 10th DAC Meeting are:

1. Elementary general music teachers gave a presentation about elementary music education and shared that the goal is not to create musically awesome kids, the goal is to create awesome kids through music.

2. DAC members actively participated in elementary lessons from teachers, Karen Surmani and Kimmarie Taylor. DAC members danced and did percussion to "Los Machetes".

3. Elementary general music instruction, provided by credentialed arts teachers, integrates with other content areas (e.g. math, science, history) and provides an opportunity for students to learn about different cultures.

4. CVUSD schools have received about \$4 million dollars over the last two years through on-going Proposition 28 state funds that are being used to support the pre-existing CVUSD Strategic Arts Plan, which was developed through meaningful engagement of numerous educational partners.

5. Chamber Singers from Newbury Park High School wowed DAC members with pieces from their upcoming holiday concert performances.

There will be a report from the 1/14/2025 DAC meeting. It will be reported "live" at the SSC meeting

This will be Ed's last year as DAC representative. A representative is needed for next year.

7.2 DELAC - (vacant) Motivational piece for moving out of the ELD program. Mr. Nichols and ELD facilitator met with ELD students and explained how they can move out of the program and become reclassified. ELPAC testing will be taking place the month of February. High School students will be meeting with ELD

students prior to meeting with all 8th grade students to receive a preview about selecting high school classes.

7.3 GATE DAC- Crochet activity today for GATE. There will be announcements about more GATE activities happening outside of school.

7.4 SEDAC -(vacant)

7.5 PTSA- Amy Zobel - meeting pushed to end of January

7.6 LGBTQ+-Dianna Brister - nothing to report.

7.7 AADAC – (vacant)

7.8 Boys and Girls Club -Lisa Barron - lunch club is now half price (\$72.50). Students can come in and play games with each other at lunch club. Three students received a shopping spree from Target for \$140 each. Youth of the month interviews happened yesterday. ELOP has two tutors on Tuesdays so that students have more opportunity to receive homework help.

8:10 a.m.

8.0 Student successes and concerns - (no students present) ASB is hosting a Winter Semiformal next Friday after school.

9.0 Teacher/Staff successes and concerns - DiDomizio wants to thank Sequoia staff for working hard during the power outages.

10.0 Parent successes and concerns - Ed S. - Speech and Debate team is off and running. The next big tournament is in March.

Dianna Brister - In light of new presidential election, are there any changes to inclusivity for our LGBTQ+ community? DiDomizio - no there are not changes; Supports for LGBTQ+ will continue.

Cameo Carolan - Thank you for working hard during the power outages. Panther Preview Night is tonight and starts at 5:00 pm in the gym. This is a good opportunity for parents to attend.

10.1 Administration closing comments. - None

8:30 a.m.

11.0 Adjournment at 8:16

Next meeting will be held February 19th, 2025.

