

Redwood School Site Council Minutes

January 16, 2024

Redwood Library, 3:30 pm

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

Members present: Nicole Judd, Heather Dingbaum-Maires, Lucy Lombardi, Tracy Sims, Kristi Keener, Denise Lucarelli, Meghann O'Weger, Carrie Halvorsen, Laura Detweiler, Zachary Snow, Nancy Joly-Cause, Rachael Brusseau, Alison Friedman, Linda Figueroa-Bertetti, Laura Wachal

Absent: Meghan Goebel, Nicole Updegraff, Dawn Ott, Roya Klaidman, Dylan McKenna, Cesar Villanueva

I. Approval of the Minutes

- C. Halvorsen made a motion to approve the November 28, 2023 minutes. L. Detweiler seconded the motion. Motion carried – November minutes approved.

II. Public Comments

- No public comments.

III. Student Report – Provided by Maddie Friedman.

- Redwood's first Wacky Wellness Week was held the week before Winter Break. A lot of Vikings participated in all COTY dress days, and we had a lot of participation in our LTAs. Some of the LTAs will be held in February due to rainy day lunch schedules.

- The Snack Cart continues to be available Mondays and Fridays.

- Game/Ball Check out continues to be available Monday through Friday in the quad

- 6th grade ASB students will begin to work Ball Cart in the month of February.

- Music is continuing to be played on Monday, Wednesday, and Fridays in the quad.

- The Christmas Door Decorating Contest had high participation and a lot of festive doors. Thank you to Mrs. O' Weger and Mrs. Keener for judging!

- Spark for Love Toy Drive began on 11/14 and ended on 12/14. Thank you to PTSA for picking up all of the toys that were collected.

- December and January Birthdays cards were distributed.

- Classroom rep meeting was held on 1/12 to tell classroom representatives about school events in January.

- Publicity for January COTY and LTA has begun.

Upcoming:

- The winner of Semester 1 COTY was Ms. Wilkens' 4th period class! They will have their celebration party on this Thursday, 1/18.

- COTY - Decades Day on 1/26

- LTA - Blast from the Past Song Guess on 1/26

- Kindness Grams will be sold 2/6 - 2/16 and distributed on 2/22

- Pink Shirt Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, 2/22, with help from PTSA

- Black History Month will be celebrated during the month of February; a trivia day will be hosted by our BSU.

IV. Boys and Girls Club Report – Provided by Cesar Villanueva.

- No report; C. Villanueva absent from meeting

V. New Business

- No new business.

VI. Committee Reports

- **DAC (District Advisory Council) – Provided by Carrie Halvorsen.**

- Fun fact: Ms. Judd is part of CAAPs training program.

- School choice deadline is January 31st
- There was a meeting for the Health and Wellness Committee; they are looking for more volunteers to be part of this important committee. The next meeting will be held on January 31st at 3:30 at the District office. Note: Moorpark High has a salad bar vending machine, and this committee is looking for similar exciting projects and installments for CVUSD.
- The Technology Committee is exploring AI and how it can be implemented and taught in our schools.
- Conejo Schools Foundation announced the dates for the All-District Music Festival: 4/15-17 for strings, 4/23-26 for choir, and 5/20-22 for band.
- The State of the Schools address will now start at 4:30, a family-friendly hour. [Here is the CVUSD District calendar](#) for more important dates and times.
- There is a Get Ahead program for advancing 8th graders from the Conejo Schools Foundation. [More information about this program can be found here.](#)
- Measure I bond funds are coming and will only go to construction projects.
- There was a presentation from the City of Thousand Oaks in regards to its Walk & Roll program in order to help T.O. become a more walkable community. The goal is to get more kids walking to and from school. [Here is more information about this initiative.](#)
 - a) Redwood did not meet requirements for needing a crossing guard in the mornings; this change will be coming in 2025/26.
 - b) There was a discussion about how Redwood can support and encourage kids who walk to/from home

c) May 8th is National Walk to School Day

■ **GATE DAC (Gifted and Talented Education District Advisory Council) – Provided by Rachael Brusseau.**

- Dr. Dwight Rogers, Assistant Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) gave a presentation on efforts to improve communication with parents and the community regarding diversity and equity through the use of (but not limited to) a variety of touchpoints including email, text, District app, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, weekly school newsletters, weekly District newsletters, and dynamic web pages. They are establishing a DEI team of parents and students to receive feedback from marginalized groups and to help with engagement at community events, and he is seeking volunteers.
- Stefanie Caswell, the GATE Teacher On Special Assignment (TOSA), shared a [GATE Identification Presentation](#) detailing the history of, including recent changes to, the testing and identification process utilized in the CVUSD to help identify our GATE student population, including efforts to expand inclusivity and access to all students.
- **Upcoming District GATE Activities - January:**
Elementary Escape Room on January 16th from 3:30 - 4:30pm in the University Center MPR. *Sign-up information and activity details will be emailed to GATE students/families one week prior to the event.*
- High School Resume building workshop will be held on Tuesday, January 23rd at the University MPR.
- Secondary Stock Market special speaker and collaborative campus competition initiation/information on

January 30th from 3:30 - 4:30 at Century Academy or via Zoom.

- An Invention Convention Parent Meeting for all 3rd thru 5th grade families will be held Wednesday, January 31st from 6:00-7:00 pm at University Center MPR. Please join us to help answer questions and/or encourage your child to participate.
- Tri-County GATE Council's "**GATEway to Leadership**" conference resumes! Teacher nominated/GATE sponsored 7th grade students will be invited to attend the Saturday conference on March 9th at Oxnard College from 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM. Parents/guardians of nominated students will receive an invitation email in early January with registration forms.

■ **DELAC (District English Learning Advisory Council) – Provided by Linda Figueroa-Bertetti.**

- The last meeting was on November 28th.
- The next meeting is coming up on January 23rd.

■ **SEDAC (Special Education District Advisory Council) – Provided by Rachel Brusseau.**

- SEDAC is taking a look at how inclusion works best in our schools.
- There are four main focus areas: LRE (least restrictive environment), inclusive practices, professional learning, and communication.
- The District was given a \$750,000 grant to be used for student mental health programs.
- There will be a Substance Use & Youth workshop on January 24th at 6-7pm; [here is more information about this program.](#)

- Administration is employing inclusive leadership practices
- March is Disability Month; the District is developing its celebration toolkit, on which it has received good feedback.
- The Circle of Friends program is coming to the district. It is an open table for kids to get together with a counselor and/or other school community member in order to connect with others.
- During the February meeting, the Council will talk about SELPA and how to move through the IEP process.
- The next meeting is scheduled for February 6th.

■ **AADAC (African American District Advisory Council) – Provided by Nicole Updegraff.**

- No updates; N. Updegraff absent from meeting
- The next meeting will be held on January 24th.

■ **LGBTQ+ Advisory Council – Provided by Megan Goebel.**

- M. Goebel absent; report submitted via email and read aloud by N. Judd
- [Agendas and meetings for this council can be found here.](#)
- Christina Harrison gave a presentation on the status of having all gender restrooms in the CVUSD schools. Christina shared that SB760 was approved by the Governor in September 2023 and requires that, on or before July 1, 2026, every public school maintaining any combination of classes from kindergarten to grade 12 provide and maintain at least one all-gender restroom for voluntary pupil use. Christina shared how this is starting

to be implemented at school sites due for renovations in 2024.

- a) N. Judd noted that all-gender restrooms, as part of Measure I construction, are coming to Redwood's campus. Additionally, changes to how kids will navigate the amphitheater area will result from the construction. Students will be making and presenting a video for the school for informational purposes.
- Breakout discussions were held with elementary school sites and middle and high school sites to brainstorm ways to recognize Pride and LGBTQ+ History months at school sites.
- Two subcommittees, the Elementary and Secondary (middle and high school), have been created and are recruiting members. **Interested advisory council members, as well as any other interested caregivers, are welcome to participate.** If you are interested in joining, please contact Jessica Bernacki for the Elementary subcommittee and Leila Mack for the Secondary subcommittee. Each subcommittee will plan to hold the first meeting before the next Advisory Council meeting in January.
- **Our next meeting will be held January 24, 2024, at** University Center - 2801 Atlas Ave. Thousand Oaks, Ca 91360. General Meetings: 9:30am - 11:30am. Executive Board Meetings: 11:30am - 12:30pm.

VII. Principal Update – Nicole Judd.

- N. Judd presented an overview of the California Dashboard.

- Anyone can access Redwood's information (testing scores, absenteeism, etc.) via the Dashboard website: <https://www.caschooldashboard.org/>
- Overall, Redwood is making improvements and has made especially large gains in the English/Language Arts.
- T. Simms noted that the counseling team is specifically working on supporting the attendance of identified struggling student groups and is being intentional with our services.
- A. Friedman asked about how class periods factor into attendance statistics. N. Judd said that chronic absenteeism data is based on full day absences, not missed periods.
- There was a discussion about the benefits of getting kids to be at school for the full day and how the biggest predictor of student success is attendance.
- Another area of targeted intervention based on Dashboard data is Redwood's suspension rate.
- In general, there is a lot to celebrate about Redwood based on this data, and the Dashboard is a great tool for sharing with interested parents and the school community in general.

VIII. Assistant Principal of Instruction Update – Kristi Keener.

- No report

IX. Dean of Student Support Services – Meghann O'Weger.

- No report

X. Old Business

- No old business

XI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24 PM.