

DRAFT Minutes
PFC General Meeting
October 20, 2016
Lecture Hall

Present: Joanna Sibley, Miriam Casco, Courtney Mizutani, Lisa Lamm, Julie Stokol, Katie Pierceall, Stacey Morris, Trish Zucker, Kim Harris, Mark Pulver Lisa Hun, Kristin Kupsh, Cheryll Glenn, Marianne Howie, DeeDee Blankley, Lisa Huynh

Meeting Called to order: 9:05 am

Introductions of Attendees

Principal's Report: Michael McAlister. Appreciates parents being here. Our parent community is involved in a constructive way relative to other schools, which enhances what we can do on this site. Example is recent Clean-Up Day, an event that gives depth to school that goes beyond the numbers. How we can have a soul as an institution is sometimes lost in the data. Met with MIT professor who was designer of the PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) TEST, which compares how schools are doing around the world. America is 48th of 50 countries, but our top 10-30% of students is better than anywhere else in world, especially in creativity. We need depth, not just hard test score data as indicators. We have something special going here with the volunteer efforts.

WASC: Self-study process is underway, led by Jon Fey and Meg Honey. All stakeholders grouped and evaluated and self-assessment report given to WASC chair. A committee of educators from around the state visits and evaluates school. Are finding areas of growth, but also identifying the great things we are already doing. Parent surveys are going out now.

Please fill them out. Questions based on WASC survey questions and questions that were asked 6 years ago. Want survey response to give broad based, accurate view of how parent community sees NG. Our last WASC accreditation was for 6 years with a 3 year midterm visit. Hoping to get a full 6 year clear this time around. Have been working hard to refocus classrooms to be standards aligned, rather than having curriculum driven by preferences of individual teachers. We need a baseline of expectation of what needs to be covered in each course.

His 4 personal goals for the school: 1) every classroom aligned to CA standards, 2) effective use of technology 3) professional development to enhance teachers' classrooms 4) continuously address aesthetic of school (makes a difference, as discipline issues go down; NG has had 200% decline in disciplinary suspensions in last 3 years).

Technology: New WiFi is installed, but still tweaking system to allow for a Bring-Your-Own-Device environment. District Board-level policy discussion now.

Emergency Supplies-- Proposed PFC funding request. On Campus Clean-Up Day, inventoried classroom emergency backpacks. Need to purchase carabiners, clipboards, water bottles, and replacement for 75 kits that have expired. Approximately \$4,900. Can PFC assist with some of that expense?

Kim Harris suggested that since the backpacks were an Eagle Scout project originally, should consider putting project out to scout troops for boys looking for projects. Back when older sons

were here, there was a Safety Committee that had some supplies stored in a container on site. Will talk to Ben Campopiano.

Question: Should other supplies be added for lockdown situations? How would it work in some of the classrooms here?

There may be more than the basic supplies needed. Design of school makes difficult, but plans are in place. Julie Stokel read an article that some schools are teaching kids to fight back--do we have strategy for what could be used in those instances? Most important thing is to confuse the person, throw stuff, create chaos. Student safety is the number one thing.

Response to Questions:

Question: How can we get more participation of teachers and administrators in Campus Clean-Up events? Not many teachers were there, and not enough parents.

We are at an impasse in teacher negotiation right now with MDEA--some did participate, but many were not prepared to give the extra time at this point.

Question: Would MDUSD allow us to impose a community service requirement for graduation?

We need a community service expectation just as part of being a member of the community. Las Lomas and Acalanes have a community service requirement of 10 hours for freshmen, then 15 for sophomores, 15 for juniors, and 20 for seniors. He administered this program when at Acalanes. Students lamented having to do it, but for example, at St. Ignatius in San Francisco, freshmen are required to do 125 hours and seniors 300. He doesn't think Campolindo or Miramonte currently have requirements. MDUSD reluctant to allow requirement due to recent lawsuits where courts viewed it as indentured servitude. Would like to explore this further.

Question: For students that have detention, could they be given the option of working rather than going to detention? Could it be an optional way to serve?

No, that would be illegal, chain gang mentality. Many upset with new tardy policy and ending up in detention after 5 tardies and Saturday School after 15. After 20 tardies, District Attorney and law enforcement get involved as considered truant. Northgate was designed for 1,100 students and currently have 1,580. He walked the longest distance during passing period in 2.5 min, so being punctual to class is doable even in this environment. Have to plan, but plenty of space to get to class. Students that get marked tardy are asking for it. Last year, were looking at morass in halls between classes. Now working beautifully and less disruptive to students already in class. We want to create environment where kids can become engaged, highly functioning adults. His bias is to get there on time, being respectful of other people in that way. Adult skills are more than just the grades and numbers.

Question: Son has an academic class A-period, and drop-off is always blocked and can't pull up. Could school keep that moving? Also, parents trying to exit parking lot are slowing down traffic flow. Maybe opening the exit gate?

Working on gate issue with the City.

Question: Are there any plans to build walls in science wing?

We would love to have a new wing. Currently room for only 26 students to do labs, and only with A-periods can we give everyone Chemistry that wants to meet UC's a-g requirements. Long term, would be nice to get rid of A period. We also need some kind of secondary gym, as don't want to have kids practicing at 10 pm because of court space. Hope that we get another bond at some point. State may give funds for structural enhancements. Kim Harris said that at PAC meetings there was indication that Board prioritizing needs of each school, and science wing and new turf on list for Northgate.

Treasure's Report: Miriam Casco (see handout Profit & Loss Budget-vs-Actual, 10/18/16)

Expense side on track with budget. Please let her know if questions about any particular category.

Income side, Education Fund is our largest source of income, and we are only at 85% of budgeted. Expects possibly 5% more to come in. Our web store powered by RevTrak was down 3.5%, but checks at walkthrough registration were down 22%. Need to increase PFC visibility at walk through. Unless Ed Fund improves in coming years, cannot sustain current level of expenses.

Discussed second year of big convenience fee for donations at school's webstore. Kim Harris brought this up at District PAC meeting and was surprised that other schools didn't have any issues, likely because the 3.5% convenience fee built into the free ASB fund management software package everyone uses was not significant with their small class donation requests.

The treasurer at College Park high school told her that none of their booster groups absorb these fees, but pass them onto parents. Northgate's class fee donation total requests are much higher, so this percentage is a big convenience fee for a donating parent to pay. The Superintendent agrees that is wrong to charge a fee on donations and is looking into what can be done. Consider writing a letter from PFC that our donations are down and encouraging her to address.

Introduction of College and Career Advisor: Andrea Herrera. Just finished hosting Junior parent night, and Juniors took the PSAT on Saturday. Sophomores will be taking in the PSAT in spring. Will offer two combo tests this year as a diagnostic on whether students fare better on ACT or SAT. Listing of colleges visiting campus is in Daily Bulletin and on twitter. Junior Year and Senior Year Action Plans are available, and will have one developed for Sophomores soon. All information is on the website. Hours are 7:30 to 4:00 or by appointment. If ever want her to come talk to parents, would be happy to.

Volunteer work looks great on college applications to show a well-rounded student. Encourages students to find something they are actually interested in. Has a listing of opportunities and can help them research their interests.

Old Business:

1. September Minutes-- Motion: It was moved, seconded, and passed to approve the September 8, 2016 minutes as submitted.

2. PFC meeting times and Location --Motion: It was moved and seconded to move all PFC meetings to evenings at 7 pm in the Library.

Discussion: Issue tabled at last meeting so we could have this discussion. Goal is to make meetings more accessible. Arguments against morning meetings include difficult location, parking, many parents working regular daytime schedules, and difficulty having teacher representation. But not everyone works 8-5, some have other volunteer obligations in the evenings, and athletics at the high school level are in the evening. Either way you lose participation.

Several key Executive Committee volunteers cannot be at morning meetings. President needs them to be here to participate.

Motion: It was moved/seconded/passed to amend the motion to move all meeting to evenings just for this school year, and then to reevaluate next year.

Motion passed as amended, 1 opposed.

New Business:

3. Motion to increase funding for Sports Med--Motion: Moved and seconded to move \$4,000 from Undesignated Carryover Funds to increase the Sports Med Intern Program from \$11,000 to \$15,000.

Discussion: Glen Barker teaches 4 classes daily during the school day, with a salary paid for by the County. Outside of class time, he spends about 90 hours a month attending sports events to work with athletes and students. Currently, he receives \$22,000 per year for these outside training hours, with Athletic Boosters paying \$11,000 and PFC paying \$11,000. This proposal would revise his contract for outside salary from \$22,000 to \$30,000 total for this school year.

The PFC's share would increase from \$11,000 to \$15,000, an additional \$4,000 for this school year.

The Sports Med program benefits enrolled students and all student athletes. Important program, but going forward, we need to make sure any additional expenses are funded by Athletic Boosters.

This contract would be Mr. Barker's full compensation and he will not continue asking students or parents for additional funding for supplies.

Motion Passed, no opposition.

4. PFC Board Positions. Motion: Moved and seconded to approve new volunteers to the following PFC Board Positions -- Sabine Kroeber, Campus Beautification; Mark Pulver, Communications Committee chair and liaison to Executive Committee; Jen Dungca, Directory; Alan Ables--e-shopping.

Motion passed, no opposition.

Committee Reports:

Site Council-- Julie Stokel-- Met first week in October to review and edit Site Council bylaws and to elect a President (Rula Kassiceh) and Secretary (Ms. Scott). VP Fey passed out the most recent Single Plan for Student Achievement to review before November meeting. He is currently drafting a new version of this document for Site Council and other stakeholders to review.

NIMB--Courtney Mizutani. MB season is in full swing and having great success. First place in our division at Delta BR in Antioch; first place in our division at Santa Cruz, largest and most prestigious marching band review in northern California. Auxiliary second place. Our three Fall Concerts were well attended— the four classical groups and the two jazz bands all sounded terrific only 6 weeks into the school year. Coming up: two more MB reviews, one more football game, and MB season is over. First jazz band festivals next month.

Fundraisers coming up: Rocco's on Thurs Oct 27, Panda on Fri Nov 18, both all day, dine in or take out. We'll advertise these but welcome your participation!. Also we are rolling out our holiday poinsettia/See's candy fundraiser next week. We are especially looking to target local businesses who might like to decorate their offices with beautiful, locally grown plants while supporting high school music education. We'll be taking orders through mid November and taking delivery of the plants Dec 3. Flyers available next week!

Vocal Music--Trish Zucker. Concert next Tuesday in the gym at 7pm, a multi-school concert with Ygnacio Valley and Concord. Moving along with new teacher.

Athletic Boosters-- Stacie Morris. Crab Feed is ON! and it will be Jan 21st. Raising price to \$75 per person or \$700 per table. Event is major focus of organization's fundraising and still short on volunteers. Please contact Stacie Morris or Fay Mettler to help with the event.

PEAK--Kim Harris. Have already held several events: Safeway Grand Opening, Walnut Run, (PEAK schools made just under \$2,000), and Family Science Night, which was a great success with cooperation from several schools. Were working on a Macy's event similar to last year's, but cancelled when coupon wasn't approved. Now thinking of a big high school prom event, as Macy's now renting tuxes and wanting to focus on prom and social wear. Turkey Trot coming up--please register. Whole Foods community support day is December 7, PEAK gets 5%. More information is coming. Show up and shop, if buy gift cards, the 5% will come back as well. MOD Pizza did grand opening with WCEF, but meant to support all WC schools so discussing including PEAK as well.

Parent Advisory Committee--Kim Harris. Clarified purpose: LCAP info gathering and sharing of topics of interest. Whenever there are things we want Kim to bring up, she can bring directly to the superintendent. WiFi access under discussion. District concern is that not all students use it appropriately. District employees that handle technology installation are years behind. Top priority for McAlister. Adam Welcome, new Director of Innovation and Technology, is on the curriculum side, but hopefully will also help improve capacity.

District CHASSP data showed some good trends, with some issues meeting standards in Special Ed groups. District encouraging all site administrators and admin teams to spend time in the classrooms. Board voted to reopen Holbrook Elementary and may make it a theme

school. Continuing LCAP plans to add Counselors, going from 0 to 55 districtwide. Vote on final bond release is coming up--Board prioritizing what use it for. College Now program in place, seniors can take classes at DVC. Supporting Prop 55.

Campus Beautification: Campus Clean-Up day had great turnout with over 500 students participating, including several sports teams. Many were involved with planning led by Mr. Campopiano, but needed additional planning committee members and more adults signed-up to help in advance. District had originally denied most projects, but reconsidered and somehow ended up approving all requests, which gave us a lot to do, including 4 major paint projects and three big landscaping areas. Spent approximately \$4,500 on plants, supplies, and 15 new indoor and 8 new outdoor garbage cans. Big donations were three truckloads of mulch from EcoMulch, labor and materials from Luca Donisi at Donisi Landscape Construction, dumpsters from Republic Services, paint and professional painting services from Brent Pasco at Dunn Edwards Paint, and heavy equipment and operators from California Retaining Walls.

Leadership students did a great job organizing and directing students, but need more adult support that morning to keep so many volunteers on task. Would be nice if extra credit certificates were uniformly honored, but can't require teachers to do. Future events should be broken down into smaller, more frequent work projects.

Shopping Rewards Programs-- Alan Ables has committed to head up this committee until his 6th grader graduates. Shopping rewards money is especially needed as the escrip program comes to an end this year and turns into Safeway grant-based program. Alan will gather information about local grocery store and other rewards programs and online programs such as Amazon Smile. Also looking at Benefit mobile app for phones. Will publicize to parent community.

Spring for Education

Spring for Ed will be April 29th. DeeDee Blankley, Katie Pierceall, and Joanna Sibley working with Athletic Boosters to coordinate with Crab Feed efforts, with Crab Feed doing live auction and Spring for Ed do more silent auction approach. Biggest PFC fundraiser.

Exec Committee Report: Julie Chesnutt. Mr. McAlister will report at the next PFC general meeting about his plans for a series of professional development sessions on mindfulness for our faculty.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Next Meeting: Nov 17, 7pm in Library.