

Redwood School Site Council Minutes

February 21, 2023

Redwood Library, 3:34 pm

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

Members present: Paola Vargas, Dennis Carter, Dylan McKenna, Zachary Snow, Kaitlyn Wilkens, Roya Klaidman, Christine Evangelista, Chakameh Azimpour, Lucy Lombardi, Megan Goebel, Nicole Judd, William Zasadil, Lori Hunnicutt, Stacey Wasson; 3:40 arrival: Carrie Halvorsen

Absent: Rachael Brusseau, Eulalia Soriano, Sophia Reichert, Alison Friedman, Rafael Rico, Melissa Crawford, Heather Dingbaum

I. Approval of the Minutes

- Stacey Wasson made a motion to approve the January 17, 2022 minutes. Meghan Goebel seconded the motion. Motion carried – January minutes approved.

II. Public Comments

- No public comments.

III. Student Report – Provided by Bayla Klaidman.

- School cases were decorated for Valentine's and Random Acts of Kindness Week
- The Snack Cart continues to be available Mondays and Fridays
- Game/Ball check out continues to be available Monday through Friday in the quad
- COTY – Decades Day on 1/27 had a lot of Vikings wearing clothing from their favorite decade
- LTA – Blast from the Past Song Guess on 1/27 was a success with most Vikings being able to guess the decades of some classic songs
- Semester 1's COTY winner was Mrs. Musgrove's 4th period class. We celebrated with a pizza party on 2/3!
- COTY on 2/10 was Jersey Day

- The LTA on 2/10 was Trivia Pie Suit hosted by Redwood's Black Student Union in celebration of Black History Month. A lot of Vikings came out to play and pie a staff member in the face.
- Kindness Grams were sold 2/6-2/16 and will be distributed to students on 2/22 in their 4th period classes in honor of Pink Shirt Day
- February Birthdays cards were distributed
- Classroom rep meeting was held on 2/3 to tell classroom representatives about school events in February
- Publicity for March COTYs and LTAs has begun.

Upcoming:

- Pink Shirt Day will be celebrated on Wednesday, 2/22
- COTY – Dress like an Ad(d)am(s) Day on 2/24
- LTA – Hungry Hippos on 2/24
- Classroom Rep meeting will be held on 3/3 for March activities

IV. Boys and Girls Club Report – Provided by Rafael Rico.

- Rafael Rico was at a Boys & Girls Club game and was unable to attend the SSC meeting. No report.

V. New Business

- No new business.

VI. Committee Reports

- **DAC (District Advisory Council) – Provided by Carrie Halvorsen.**
 - Opening comment – T.O. Arts has more funding to give! Teachers should apply because the foundation wants to use it! Spread the word!
 - Measure I representative would like teachers and administrators to try to promote the progress that has come to CVUSD school sites so taxpayers know what is happening. The more taxpayers know how their money is being spent, the more likely a renewal and/or a new measure will be passed. N. Judd followed up with an explanation of all the exciting and important things that

Measure I gave Redwood specifically: The only way we survived COVID was the fact that we had Measure I. Our chromebooks left our site and supported elementary schools during the pandemic; then we went 1:1 and we could not have done it and supported our students in this way without Measure I. In addition to laptops, the science rooms are being refurbished and are getting much-needed new labs, which is exciting. Also, Band will be moved down to the woodshop (woodshop tools will be redistributed to other schools), and strings will take over the former band space. Construction starts this summer! The next big project is an outdoor quad pavilion with new stage, landscaping, etc. to make it more welcoming and updated for our students. Overall, Measure I is helping us to improve what we offer our students!

- C. Halverson asks about Redwood's portables and how long they will remain on campus. N. Judd responded by saying that some aren't being used and they are talking about removal, but that is expensive because of resurfacing the ground. It is cheaper to have them sit there than it is to remove them; Redwood just does not have the funds to do any resurfacing.
- R. Kalidman asks if PTSA could possibly use the portable(s) for storage. N. Judd will think this over and connect with PTSA about this idea.
- N. Judd also makes a note that the school will be leasing a copier, getting tinting for the windows in the upstairs rooms, and replacing all the plastic windows that are broken.
- C. Halvorsen brings up the concept of DEI and how it applies to funds from Measure I at the different school sites. Money was divided up equally, but is this truly equitable? Are school sites receiving an equitable amount of money according to need rather than just division? Redwood, for example, was built in the 60's and is older and needs more work than newer schools.
- There was a big presentation on attendance policies and procedures. There is a correlation between chronic absenteeism in the sixth grade and dropping out later on. The district is focusing on this. Chronic absenteeism is

defined as missing 10% or more of school. Our district is at 14.7% percent chronic absenteeism; whereas California has 30% (data is from the 2021/22 school year). There is a support system in place in CVUSD that works hard to reduce chronic absenteeism and educate families and students about attendance.

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

- M. Crawford was unable to attend the SSC meeting. P. Vargas shared M. Crawford's notes.
- There was a meeting on February 3, 2023.
- GATE screening – Make-up screenings and follow-up screenings continue for 3rd graders and 2022-2023 referrals. The intent is for notification letters to be sent out by early March via US mail. With the change in screening methods, it was determined that the CoGAT was developmentally appropriate for rising 3rd graders. The hope is for early identification and more equity. Therefore, rising 3rd graders will be screened in late April, with notifications being mailed in early June.
- Community Updates – Conejo Schools Foundation's application for Cash 4 Conejo Classrooms is now open. Teachers can apply for a \$250 grant. Teachers who received the grant in the fall are not eligible to participate. Submission deadline is February 10th. Applications can be found at <https://www.conejoschools.org/cash4conejoclassrooms/>. Thousand Oaks Arts program FamilyPAC is offering families the opportunities to create lifelong memories at the Bank of American Performing Arts Center. Currently, tickets are available for Malevo and Bluey's Big Play. Tickets are only \$10. More information can be found at www.toarts.org/programs/familypac.
- Resources – BreakThrough and Conejo Schools Foundation offer Parent Guardian Workshop. The January session was on Healthy Screen Habits. The link to the presentation can be found at <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=Ok-yeflg1J8&feature=youtu.be>. The upcoming session will be on Teens and

Substance Use on February 26 at 6 pm. Signups will be sent out this week.

- Social Emotional Learning & Learning Loss (SEL) – Katie Berry, Elementary Counselor, and Analise Griffith, Secondary SEL TOSA, presented on Social Emotional Learning (TK-12). They provided a walk-through of the SEL programs that are being utilized at the elementary schools, middle schools, and high schools. After the presentation, GATE-DAC reps broke into two groups, elementary and secondary schools, to further discuss the impact of SEL on GATE students. The key takeaway from both the elementary and secondary schools is differentiation of SEL. GATE students would benefit from SEL focused on managing academics. The SEL presentation can be found at <https://go.boarddocs.com/ca/conejo/Board.nsf/Public#>. Click on “GATE District Advisory Council” in the “Meetings” box. Scroll down and click on “View the Agenda”. The presentation can be found under Agenda Item 4A.
- The next meeting will be held on Friday, March 3, 2023.

■ **DELAC (District English Learning Advisory Council) – Provided by Dennis Carter.**

- E. Soriano was unable to attend the meeting. No update.

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

- There was a meeting on January 24, 2023.
- SEDAC Meeting Recap
 - a) [Link to SEDAC January Meeting Google Slides](#). Please review for a full recap of the meeting.
- Anti Bias Grant
 - a) Dr. Rogers (Assistant Director for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) spoke about the Anti Bias Grant CVUSD was awarded to be used for purposes of preventing, addressing, and eliminating racism in all California Public schools, and making all public schools inclusive and supportive of all people.

- b) Link to information about the [Anti Bias Education Grant Program](#).
- Welcome Dr. Erin Roderick!
 - a) Dr. Roderick is the new Director of Special Education for Elementary and Preschool. SEDAC is excited to welcome her to CVUSD and look forward to collaborating with her.
 - b) [Meet Dr. Erin Roderick \(1\).pdf](#)
- Human Growth and Development Virtual Preview Night
 - a) Save the Date: CVUSD parents/guardians are invited to join the District's Instructional Services team for a scheduled virtual Preview Night on Thursday, February 2nd at 5:00pm to review the Human Growth and Development videos for grades 4-6. Registration link coming soon!
 - b) Videos can also be previewed through the CVUSD Website and you can also submit a question online
 - c) [Instructional Services/Human Growth & Development](#)
- Any CVUSD can apply to the Conejo Schools Foundation for a \$250 classroom grant. Please encourage teachers at your school site to apply!
 - a) www.conejoschools.org/cash4conejoclassrooms/
- Unified Basketball Game – SAVE THE DATE!
 - a) Come support the Unified teams from TOHS, WHS and NPHS and cheer them on as they play basketball.
 - b) The game will be Tuesday February 14, 2023 at TOHS Gymnasium at 10:00 am.
- Grant awarded to CVUSD to support school-based mental health
 - a) Please visit CVUSD's website to learn more about what the grant includes
 - b) [CVUSD Awarded \\$11.3 Million Grant to Enhance School-Based Mental Health Services](#)
- Updates from Directors of Special Education
 - a) [Updates in special education - January 24, 2023.pdf](#)
 - b) [Parent Training Matrix for SEDAC](#)
- The next SEDAC General Meeting will be Wednesday, March 15, 2023, from 9:15 am to 11:30 am at University

(2801 Atlas Ave).

■ **AADAC (African American District Advisory Council) – Provided by Lori Hunnicutt.**

- L. Hunnicutt was sick and did not attend the last meeting; recent discussions, though, have been about Black History Month.
- 1 Shine Youth is coming to a few CVUSD schools! This organization supports leadership development and participation in the Black Student Union, for example, and it showcases expression through fine arts. N. Judd mentions that Redwood was selected for this performance by 1 Shine Youth based on Redwood's active participation in its BSU. Teachers signed their classes up for the 1 Shine Youth assembly on a first-come, first-served basis.
- There is a partnership with Moorpark College about learning for Black students; it is geared toward BSU students in the district.
- A number of our students went to the [Black College Expo](#) in Los Angeles!
- The next AADAC meeting is currently in the process of being rescheduled.

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

- The next meeting is on February 22 at 9:30 am at University.
- The council will review the protection of transgender students at our schools. Representatives will review information ahead of time, and breakouts will be based on elementary and secondary levels to discuss the various needs.

VII. Principal Update – Nicole Judd.

- N. Judd presented a report on Quarter 1 D/F data and Semester 1 D/F data as well as intervention data.
 - Departments held their second grade distribution discussions and considered many questions when looking at the data, including, What is our grade analysis across

all students? Where are our grades? How are our students performing? How are we grading? These are hard conversations to have, and the dialogue around these discussions can be challenging and difficult. Data was looked at as a whole and then also broken down to help examine it in light of various factors; a Council discussion followed.

- N. Judd noted that the district is looking at grading for equity and grading for mastery – it's not about if you learn it but when you learn it. Leadership is mulling over a plan for incorporating these ideas next year.
- W. Zasadil shared that the Guided Studies has been a highly successful program! $\frac{2}{3}$ or more of students in GS have increased their GPA, and their GPA increased on average by 157%! Unfortunately, Board funds are not being continued to support this program. We are hopeful they will be able to find the money needed to champion the kids who rely on the Guided Studies class for help. Community members can help with this by emailing the Board.
- Some other successful interventions include reading intervention for 50 minutes a day for some sixth graders and a Study Hall during A period and sixth period.
- Questions for teachers to consider moving forward are to think about what grades are tied to and how they either motivate or don't motivate students to learn the material.

VIII. Assistant Principal of Instruction Update – Paola Vargas.

- No update.

IX. Dean of Student Support Services – Dennis Carter.

- Two former students were in the all-state honor band! Amazing!

X. Old Business

- No old business.

XI. Miscellaneous

- M. Goebel said the Redwood Dance Team got first place in their last competition! It went very well and the kids had a great time! If you get the chance, go see them. The Spring Concert will be run April 20-22.

XII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:59 pm.