

Palo Alto High School Site Council
Monday, January 21, 2009

ITEM 1 CALL TO ORDER

Lorraine Brown called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M. in Portable 3. Members present were, Ning Xu, Lorraine Brown, Cherie Sopkin, Kenyon Scott, David Rapaport, Kathie Laurence, David Cohen, Julia Sing, Arlene Leslie, Kevin Ward, Mary Dimit- PTSA, Principal Jacquie McEvoy and Coordinator Edie Miller. Not present: Jasmaer Sandhu, Alex Freeman. Elspeth Farmer, Carla Guerard, Lucas Matze.

ITEM 2 APPROVALS OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 8, 2008 were approved.

ITEM 3 OPEN FORUM

Becky Byler, Senior Class President reported that the Student Council is talking with the Principal about using only buses to transport students to the Prom in San Francisco. She would like some parent input on the alternatives.

David C. pointed out that Kevin Ward is featured on the front page of the Daily for participation in the "Letters to the President" effort.

ITEM 4 PROJECT REPORT

Teresa McDermott gave the Council an update on the new Interior Design class. She explained that the funds were used for textbooks, rulers, measuring tapes, drafting tables and tools. She is hoping to acquire some software. Currently the students are learning to draw plans by hand. They then pick out flooring, colors etc. Canda College donated lots of samples. The students then do a team project. She showed a sample for which 2 students interviewed their client- the Principal- and then did a plan, including "green" ideas for her office. There is some work with budget. Currently there are two classes which are a repeat of first semester. Next year Teresa is hoping to include a second level class on international design and green design.

ITEM 5 WASC-

Kindel presented the WASC report that will go to the School Board on Jan. 27. The WASC visiting committee will be at Paly March 8-10. The report is a PDF file at Paly.net. There are 5 chapters. The Council received copies of chapter 2 and chapter 5. Chapter 2 is a summary of the data. Chapter 5 is the Action plans in summary form, that came from the critical areas of need and the focus areas. There was considerable discussion. David Rapaport expressed his concern about the use of the word alignment, the similar format of the action plans regardless of the discipline and the omission of the word race in the Equity paragraph on page 166. Other members also asked questions. It was moved and seconded that "Site Council has reviewed the WASC report". This passed with one abstention.

ITEM 6 FACILITIES

Jacquie reported on the Facilities Committee, which includes 12 members- staff, a parent (Stu Berman), a student (Shiroz Kirsna) and a custodian. There is a facilities web page where one can see all the documents. The master plan will be done by mid-March. The Architect will update the Board soon. It is necessary for the interest groups of the Theater and the Gym to meet and get a \$\$ reality check. All meetings are open to the public. We are probably one year from breaking ground on buildings. The soccer and baseball fields will be done this spring and summer.

ITEM 7 REPORTS

PTSA Fundraising is ongoing for LCD projector for each classroom. On January 22 there

will be a Parent Ed program with a speaker from FACEBOOK. There will not be an International Festival this year because no one stepped up to chair it. There will be a teacher luncheon in February.

STUDENT COUNCIL- Kevin reported that there is a need to connect the Student Body with the Student Council so he is going to establish a suggestion box. Kevin's project for Leadership Class is to organize a variety show and the proceeds will go to Camp Everytown. There was good attendance at the Winter Dance.

ITEM 8 PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Jacque reported that PiE donations are down about 40%. More appeals are going out. This money is used to fund positions so it is critical. Jacque also explained further about the Prom transportation issue. She is talking with parents and students and will make a decision soon as to whether limos and buses will be used as in the past or if the only option will be buses.

Mary asked that late start on Thursdays still be discussed.

ITEM 8 FUTURE MEETING AGENDA and ADJOURNMENT

1. IS reports.

Kevin moved for adjournment and it was seconded. It passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:15 PM. Next meeting- February 9, 2009.