

West Hillsborough School  
Site Council  
December 10, 2014

## MINUTES

### CALL TO ORDER

Members present:

Suma Raju, Christy MacLean-Chu, Sherry Gavin, Teresa Pai, Megan Medvitz, Chris Flores, Jamie Evare, Jamie Adams, Vicky Volden, Leslie Huie, Sarah Adams, Theo Kotseroglou.

### OLD BUSINESS

a. Minutes 11/12/14 Approved

### NEW BUSINESS

a. Approval of Single Plan for Student Achievement: Jamie Adams and Sarah have approved. It is now going to the school board. They will approve in January. There were a few edits that Jamie Adams incorporated. Site Council took a vote and majority in favor of approving and submitting.

b. Prioritizing the list of Discussion topics (see attached for full list with comments from this meeting).

**January:** Creative Writing/ Mindfulness/ Breathing techniques to center and calm – Jamie Adams will prep an info sheet on Creative Writing. Megan can speak to the Mindfulness portion.

**February:** Programming/ Coding (including the role of Technology in homework, cyber safety and our kids) – Leslie will prep an info sheet. Jamie Adams will contact Tim Raffo (TOSA) to request his presence and expertise.

**March:** STEAM (including possibility of science fair, gender equality in learning) – need a person to write an info sheet

**April:** Gifted/ High Achievers and how they are addressed at West – Jamie will contact Mary Maher (Director of Student Services at HCSD) to present but this topic could be bumped to an earlier date depending on Mary's schedule.

### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 4:30pm.

Next Meeting is January 14th.

SITE COUNCIL DISCUSSION TOPICS 2014-2015 (with comments from Dec 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in **bold**)

- ◆ CREATIVE WRITING (**Jamie Adams, January**)
- ◆ Accommodating GIFTED children? Or...Assistance for higher achieving kids and tracking it. (**Jamie will contact Mary Maher – HCSD Director of Student Services, to come and speak in April or whenever her schedule allows. She will bump any other topic. HCSD has 1-3% of its' students identified as gifted. Mary is working on finding the right tool/ test to identify giftedness in children K-5, as early as . The schools may approach a gifted program like an IEP. Megan pointed out from her experience taking a class on giftedness there are many sources out there on the internet that we can use as a resource for information.**)
- ◆ Programming/Coding---problem solving for kids (**add related topic of Cybersaftey: Chromebooks come with censors/blocks but there are still possible inappropriate news items that will pop up. Add related topic of "how much technology should be part of our children's homework?" There are many kids who are on the tech playing, messaging, chatting, and doing things that are not straight forward homework items. Are we benefiting from having the kids do parts of their homework on the computer? Leslie will take on the topic for presentation. Leslie - through Jamie Adams - will attempt to get Tim Raffo, TOSA, to come speak to the group. February.**)

~~Quality of FIELD TRIPS for West school/District decision~~

~~Enhance w/an environmentally focused field trip:~~

~~SF Waste Water Treatment plant next to Zoo;~~

~~Or Story of our Water Source Chrystal Springs/Pulgas Temple Terminus;~~

~~Hillsborough Government Tour~~

~~Tesla Battery Tour~~

~~NASA~~

~~School Security Partnerships~~

~~Security & sealing off access points—exterior/preventative REVIEW~~

**(District Issue)**

~~Parking—pick up and drop off~~

**(Safety Committee formed: Ingrid Davis, Sandy Lai, Michelle Fowler, Mike Swire. They are assessing and making an action plan for our school. Action items include: parent volunteer crossing guards, no parking signs placed at beginning and end of distance not allowed to park, striping new crosswalks on our property, police giving tickets)**

~~Yoga belly breathing exercises to calm children (Integrated with Creative Writing and Mindfulness in January)~~

~~LUNCH—timing & quality of food—what about Soup Kitchen idea— (Could the lunch hour be extended - no, would impact the length of the day. Kids are allowed to eat during recess time but they don't want to. Choice lunch is very efficient, but the line to compost/ throw away garbage is long)~~

- ◆ ~~Science Fair—STEAM (could this be voluntary? Can this be a family project? Most science fairs have projects that are clearly done by the parent. Try to incorporate topic of gender equality in learning. Are West teachers teaching topics equally to students irregardless of gender? Do we want to dictate what kids do during their free choice time at school? How can we exposed Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, Math to all our kids even if they do not show an avid interest. We need a point person to present this information in March.)~~

~~LLAB—has Ms.Mueser visited the Nueva workshop sites?~~

~~Gender Equality in Learning~~

~~School Garden—examples (This can be on the agenda for allocations. Bring it up at West Parent Group)~~

~~School Facelift—primary colors—a parent paint project  
Classroom ventilation & atmosphere; does West School need a paint job? (This is more of an allocations topic, West Parent Group topic)~~

~~SPANISH—4<sup>th</sup> grade good time to start~~

~~Community Service Projects~~