

**LOS CERRITOS MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL MINUTES  
March 6, 2024**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Present at the meeting were: Gina Sillers, Jason Klinger, Eli Nudel, Daniel Nudel, Olivia Chiu, Katie Dahm, Reagan LaRue, Scott Foli, Karen McCarthy, Kaylin Kelly, Brandy Pacheco, Clare Cee, Rachael Jordan, Michelle McEvoy, Kacy Butcher, Paige Gonzales, Olivia Foster, Pam VanUden, David Carranza

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:33.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes were approved as written.

Student's Report

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Rep – Reagan LaRue:

- In Science classes we just registered for 7th grade. Very exciting.
- The Greek Olympics are coming up the first or second week in May.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade Rep – Olivia Foster:

- Outdoor school was exciting. Both weeks were fun, the first week was so muddy.
- After we did registration forms online, counselors pulled us in and talked about courses.

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Rep – Kaylin Kelly:

- We are also happy Mr. Pyle is back. It's hard to learn math from a teacher who doesn't specialize in math.
- Recently had Leopard Lounge, an all solos choir concert. Reagan did an amazing solo. Approx. 200 people in attendance. Between all the sales, we earned approx. \$1400. Lots of baked goods, so we will be having a bake sale.
- Festival will be next Tuesday!

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Rep – Eli Nudel

- Math was hard and I had Pyle too. Mrs. Kirkman was teaching things we didn't know.
- Leopard Lounge was amazing.
- Band fundraiser at Fusion Grill, they gave us a private room and the band director was there. Lot of people came.
- Another fundraiser was at the Stand. Wasn't on a good day because there was already one at Fusion Grill.

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Rep – Clare Cee:

- Science - presenting science fair projects. Enjoyed the science fair project because we got to choose what we wanted. Learn a lot.
- Choir - Festival is next week. Exciting, we have been working hard. Long drive, lots of traffic.

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### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Rep – Olivia Chiu:

- We had our Science fair project presentation. Tonight, the parents come. We will vote on projects per category.
- Leadership - Clothes drive next week. Getting ready for carnival in May. Trying new things. Gonna make it fun. Due to new risk management rules, we had to change some things.
- Social Studies - had a test last Friday. We got to test in this room (37), the windows and more room was better for testing, less stressful.
- In Math, Mr. Pyle was gone for 2 weeks and now he's back. It was difficult having a sub.

### Counselor's Report – Karen McCarthy:

- This year we did 1:1 meet with kids to register for next year. Went into classrooms for the first time to help kids with registration. Kids came to us, we could walk them through steps. Went very well. Numbers already in the system.
- 8th grade - doing lesson on March 20th - talking about High School and all the GE requirements so they are ready for H.S. counselors.
- Yesterday, first day at elementary schools. Last night we had 5th grade parent info night. Had 75 people.
- Upcoming - College and Career Week, March 25-28. Every day, different activities. Tuesday, parents will be presenting to students, doing a rally schedule. Very exciting. Door decorating for teachers. Doing Coffee with the Counselors online.
- We had Daniel from Ludington Institute, do a presentation online about Resiliency. Gave us contact information. About 15-18 people attended.
- Dan - I attempted to join the meeting, but had tech issues and couldn't join in. The link didn't let me in. Not liking Teams.

### DAC Report – Patti Reis:

Not present. Sent report:

- School choice - deadline ended, but never too late to accept school choice.
- Wellness committee - schools should separate food in garbage bins.
- V.C. Science Fair is looking for Science and Engineering judges for science fair.
- It's National Women's History month in March.
- Colina - shared concern about dress code.
  - Does not promote good behavior or positive attitudes
  - Baggy clothing allows to conceal contraband
  - PJs are not productive, distracting
  - Crocs not safe
  - Skin not appropriate
  - Current D/C had unusual route - straight to board
- Cell phones are also being discussed.
- Presentation on reading literacy and science of reading

### SEDAC Report – Martina Ziegenfuss:

Not present. Emailed report.

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- SEDAC meeting focused primarily on small group discussions with various representatives providing assistance across Ventura County. We had table talks from the district and community agencies. Here are the websites of the community agencies that came. <https://tri-counties.org> & <https://rainbowconnectionfrc.weebly.com>
- Executive Board Elections will take place at the next SEDAC meeting. Nominations for the Executive Board are open until April 13th.
- [Transition Fair](#) sponsored by SELPA/VCOE is coming up Saturday, March 23rd, 9 am - 12 pm at VCOE in Camarillo. Come check it out even if your child is younger. This is an opportunity to see all the schools and agencies and ask individualized questions.
- The [Disability Celebrations Toolkit](#) was shared with suggestions for events suggestions; I will be reviewing this with Ms. Gonzalez for ideas this and next year.
- Dr. Egans gave an update on Mental Health Grants– helps sustain wellness rooms for another 5 years. Hired 19 direct-service mental health employees. \$750,000 grant helps provide additional counselors at sites for trauma-informed care. Paraeducator staffing has been difficult; figuring out barriers and addressing them. School sites can now hire certain positions directly for their site. At the AADAC meeting, they discussed the Disability Celebrations Toolkit, AADAC wants to build a toolkit as well.
- The next SEDAC meeting is May 7.

### GATE DAC Report – Michelle McEvoy:

- Meeting was last week.
- GATE DAC - reviewed the Mastery Grading presentation. Had Q & A session with District.
- GATE programs at district level - no GATE activity for M.S. in March (Outdoor School). In April, there will be a Survivor meets Amazing Race scavenger hunt on April 11th at Redwood.
- Teen Tech Convention (for 6th graders) held on May 30th - 50 spaces for 6th grade students from each of the middle schools. Held at Teen Center.
- Tri County GATE Council leadership conference happening this weekend, 4 of our students are attending.
- Discussion on Master Grading - took a pivot. Parents are concerned that it is not yet being implemented in terms of differentiating between kids who are accelerated from kids who need additional support.

### ELAC/DELAC Report – Paige Gonzales:

- Just had a field trip to Moorpark College for ELD students. Looking at making that a broader experience.
- Next meeting is March 20th - be a cluster ELAC meeting at TOHS - all cluster schools involved.
- ELPAC testing winding down - catching kids that need make-up tests. We've done the best out of all middle schools in reclassifying kids.

### LGBTQ+ Representative – Rachael Jordan:

- Christina Harrison and Kenny Loo gave presentation on FAIR Act and Calif Healthy Youth Act in regards to LGBTQ curriculum and materials.
- Middle School curriculum and materials on sexual health are really inclusive. Everyone is happy with the new materials that were adopted. Parents can see all materials on District website.
- Reviewed Education Codes.

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- Had breakouts for elementary and secondary school sites - recognize Pride Month in June. Talking about what to do at school sites.
- Next meeting is April 24th. Will have a cluster meeting in March.

### PTSA Report – Deanna Camacho:

Not present. Emailed report.

- General Association meeting tomorrow to elect a new slate of Board Members.
- Continuing to fundraise.
- Got 3 new benches and pots to go in front of Garcia's room. Maintenance waiting to build.
- Bought Tree benches - get potted plants, next to portables.
- Scholastic Book Fair - bringing it back.

### Boys & Girls Club Report – David Carranza:

- I'm the new Club director.
- Spring Break camp - changed to Redwood Middle School.
- Summer Camp here at Los Cerritos starting June 17th.
- Having a SMART Girls event on April 27th from 9am - 4pm. \$20 to attend.
- Van Uden - how is the club set up for after school homework?
  - Students check in and get a snack then 20 mins to chill
  - Homework time is 3:30 to 4:30 - split into rooms by grade with a staff member to help them.
  - Phones are not allowed during homework time.

### Teacher Reports:

- Butcher – nothing big to report.
- VanUden - everything is good.

### Principal's Report – Jason Klinger:

- Nobody mentioned Black History Month assembly. OneShine came in and did a presentation.
- 40 of our 8th grade latino students will attend Latino Connection Conference at TOHS.
- Principal for Half Day - Monday March 25th. Community member.
- March 18th - a pupil free day. Teachers are doing Anti-bias training.
- March 28th will be a special minimum day - 12:09pm dismissal.
- Sports -
  - 7th and 8th boys volleyball semi-finals tonight, hopefully they make finals.
  - Girls basketball 7th grade finished in 3rd place.
- Grading Practices - always about point accumulation. Goal is to measure progress. District is looking at different ways to grade. Reward kids that move.

### Old Business

No Comments.

### New Business

Progress Monitoring – Klinger:

- Should have started the single school plan today, but lots of changes are going on.
- ESSLER money - given to all districts for programs. Money not there next year.

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- Departments are looking at what to spend money on and what we can lose.
- State of California change - we have to have specific actions for anything that's red (no progress):
  - Students with disabilities - chronic absenteeism
  - Special Ed - absent more than 10% of school year
  - State testing - English and Math - students with disabilities also not progressing.
- Single School Plan - during April, May and June meetings, then in August and September when we return.

### Public Concerns

- Michelle - fans and ventilation. So many kids are sick.
  - Klinger - HVAC is running to move air. We replaced all the hand sanitizers.
- Eli - I have Ms. Flores for English Honors, kids are reading different books. Heard from students that they don't have any time to read. Expects us to read at home but no book. Have to read pdfs. I personally bought my own book. Hard to keep up.
- Kaylin - can't read the pdf. Do all reading in class and go off of memory to do homework.
- Butcher - English books are available online. They have some supplemental books as well.
  - Klinger - we want materials to be available to students, so I will check in to that.
- Dan - homework is minimal. In agreement that most of the learning should be done at school. Is that school discretion? or dictated by district? Let parents know why the amount of homework is decided.
  - Klinger - there is no district mandate regarding homework, that is left to our Dept chairs. Homework should be for practice. Should HW be part of the grade? If you don't attach a grade, they won't do it.
- Kaylin - I get a decent amount of homework, but teachers allow time in class to work on homework.

### Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 am.

Respectfully submitted, Gina Sillers, SSC Clerk