

El Monte Union High School District
Rosemead High School
School Site Council
Minutes

Wed., January 15, 2020
3:15 p.m.

SSC Responsibilities

- 1A. School Plan Development – Data Analysis & Needs
- 1B. School Plan Development – School Goals & Improvement Activities
- 1C. School Plan – Evaluation
- 1D. School Plan – Budget
- 1E. School Plan – Approval
- 1F. Parent Involvement Policy

I. Call to order

Present:

Vice Principal: Mr. Banas

Teachers: Don Quick, Mrs. Brown, Rosa Anaya

Parents: Mrs. Benitez. Mrs. Ostry

Students: Michelle Tan, Vanessa Vergara

Staff: Angelica Esqueda

II. Public Comments (Limited to 3 min. per person)

None.

III. Approval of agenda

Motion: Mrs. Benitez, Second: Ms. Anaya, Approval: unanimous

IV. Approval of meeting minutes from December 11

Mr. Quick: on page 2, change the minutes to reflect a correction made during the conversation.

Mrs. Ostry: Commented about Dashboard, a website with important school information. DELETE the comment where she said we don't have comparison data.

(We have Dashboard data for more than 1 year. This was corrected in the course of the conversation.)

Mrs. Benitez: Dashboard started in 2018 and there wasn't much data then. But now there is much more data and years to access.

Mr. Quick Motion to approve the minutes with proposed changes. Second: Anaya, Approval: unanimous.

V. Math Dept. Insights from Mr. Hatley

Mr. Quick: Table Mr. Hatley's insights.

Mr. Banas: Talking about achievement gap in math areas. RHS students have problems decoding a problem. Students lack problem-solving skills. Filter the problems given with insights not just solving the problem by memorizing math steps. Use of the language for language learners in math: some students know how to solve the problem but the language becomes a barrier. Teachers should be more creative and visual and active in experiencing the material. Goal: how can we empower our math teachers?

Also Mr. Medina previously mentioned that he wants to try standards-based grading.

Mr. Banas thinks teachers should try new ways to teach math.

Mr. Quick: Standards-based grading is a different mindset.

Mr. Banas: more collaboration meetings. This transition will take a few more years.

Mr. Quick: we will reach out to math and science departments.

VI. Single Plan for Student Achievement

New CAASP Data

Mrs. Brown: New CAASSP Data (gave a handout)

Mr. Quick: asked Mrs. Benitez if she has insights in LCAP form. She said the form was confusing. They are using a new format.

Mr. Banas: Are the goals the same for the school and the departments?

Mr. Quick: these goals (3% improvement) and results are not ambitious enough.

Benitez agreed.

Departments would benefit by hearing each other's goals. Department chairs should set up interdepartmental discussion of improvement goals.

Mrs. Benitez: goals should coincide with what is online

Survey Results

Mr. Quick: set of data from senior students shows a good picture.

2 points of things to improve:

1.) Adults listening to one another.

2.) Students' feeling empowered to talk about their feelings coming to school.

The main comment that was positive about the school: students feel safe and like the RHS environment. Students liked being here with their friends.

Students want more events. School security needs to improve, though safety is good.

Mrs. Ostry: can we have a sub committee to look at the student survey and interpret information to make things more clear.

Mrs. Benitez: Seniors only?

Mr. Quick: no, that is how far I got.

Mrs. Ostry: we can have a meeting and that is all we look at: the survey seniors took.

The results should be interpreted and in a binder.

Mr. Quick: Good idea.

Trying to tie in math connections to science:

Mr. Quick: Need more logical reasoning in my science class. Increasing math reasoning too. Measurement and calculations. Using math with natural occurrences. Thinking about writing as a formula. To help them bridge math and science. I am trying to get students to think of their learning in terms of arguments rather than memorizing a bunch of facts. How do the ideas connect, make sense of a larger story?

Mr. Banas: thinking about the mathematical process rather than just answering the questions right. We teach students lesson by lesson and that confuses students if they don't see the connection in each lesson. This problem of disconnection is not just in math or science but everywhere. I love the idea of reflecting on reasoning and making also there are many ways to make connections.

On schedule changes that might support more in-depth learning:

Mr. Quick: block classes made teaching science nice when I taught at South El Monte. I had much more Prep time, long blocks made labs much more manageable. I could focus on one prep per day.

Mrs. Ostry: I complained about the block schedule when my kids had it because if a student was absent he missed a lot of material. Not so in 1 hour schedules.

Mr. Banas: block programs in our district show up in lower-performing schools.

Mrs. Benitez: block schedule hard for kids who are not understanding the material.

Mrs. Ostry: College is on a block schedule but those students are more mature. Not good for freshmen and sophomores.

Mr. Quick: In college, there are many ways to show that you understood the material other than an exam. There is a whole different culture that is more collegial, relaxed than in high school. Maybe this fosters the development of maturity.

Mrs. Benitez: students need more ways of showing they understood the material.

Report from ASB

Vanessa Vergara: ASB we should have more clubs. Club rush shouldn't be the only time all students know about the various clubs. Should be more active.

Mr. Quick: is there any data about who participates?

Vanessa: no.

Mrs. Ostry: do students not know about clubs or don't want to go to clubs?

Mrs. Benitez: at registration kids should know about the clubs.

Mr. Banas: the website and social media tell about clubs.

Ms. Anaya: Clubs need to make themselves more visible. Hardly see evidence of clubs.

Michelle: the Website agenda has clubs listed but not updated. Also looked at Mountain View that website shows info about clubs.

VII. Budget

-D. Quick: Update about suggested books for library

Mr. Quick: looking for his books to tell the library to get them.

Mrs. Ostry: are department chairs taking advantage of that?

Mr. Quick: Library does reach out.

Mrs. Benitez: how many copies of those books do we really need?

-L. Hatley: Discuss math dept. requests list--Tabled

-B. Bristol: Budget for *Academic Profiling* book set--Tabled

IX. School Safety Plan

-J. Banas: Report from Safety Committee

Mr. Banas: we have a safety committee at RHS. Last December Bristol created a committee to the whole idea of campus safety, we looked into areas of safety. What area do we need to prioritize? The entrance gates. Each month we tackle one problem. We will be approving a school site safety plan in February. There are 10 issues in safety we are looking at. There are recommendations (see his handout)
We need to secure gates to enter the campus. Maintenance gate is the biggest problem. Going to get motorized gates. The main entrance will be the main gate. And post people there.

X. Next meeting: Wed., Feb. 12 @ 3:15pm

XI. Adjournment @ 5:07pm