

# CATALINA FOOTHILLS HIGH SCHOOL

## SITE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES MARCH 23, 2018 8:30AM

Present: Jody Brase, Cheryl Joseph, Kelly Lantz, Justin Robinson, Maria Pastorini, Jay Christopher, Tess Chua, Peris Lopez, Shay Mac Ban, Gary Thompson, Amari Lampert, Monisha Patel

### I. **Call Meeting to Order**

*Jody Brase*

Jody Brase called the meeting to order at 8:34 am

### II. **Approval of the Agenda**

*Jody Brase*

Maria Pastorini motioned to approve the minutes. Jessie Petrillo seconded.

### III. **Approval of the Minutes**

*Jody Brase*

Cheryl Joseph motioned to approve the minutes. Gary Thompson seconded.

### IV. **AdvancEd Report - Student / Adult Connections on Campus** *Jody Brase*

*Review information shared from the last meeting.*

- Jody: Reminder that our area of growth=student connections. Had awareness week last week, guest speaker on campus.

*Areas of focus (Big ideas)*

*Site Council Suggestions for the school direction for student/adult connections 18-19 SY*

- Jay: we do a lot of good things, even within context of Advisory and 9th grade connections. Traditional activities--clubs, sports, etc. To truly feel connected, there must be a relationship built between individuals. Small group-- when students feel like someone else truly knows them

- Jody: even clubs/sports

- Jay: if small groups/relationships are the goal, a group of people can come together to brainstorm how we can use existing systems to implement goals. Doesn't have to be therapeutic; making personal connection

- Gary: at Marana-- 60-70 min built into school day. Academic Assistance (struggling students went to teachers for help, successful students participated in area of interest-- guitar class, 80s movie buffs, etc. Indiv interests that got like minded people together. Could sign up for different activity various times. Could modify to set up for semester, year, etc. Most times students returned to same group. More relaxed setting and you automatically had something in common.

- Peris: speaker that came helped us a lot-- connected teachers, parents, and students. All got the same general message.

- Tess: largest parent involvement we have ever seen.

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- Jay: back to what Gary was saying. Create places where students have to go. Allow faculty AND parents to be a part of that.
- Kelly: same idea as Falcon Connections. Can expand Falcon Connections. Another idea-- give teachers permission to go off-curriculum or off-content to develop that relationship. Play games, watch movie, etc. Students--esp those who may not have a good relationship with the teacher--can then hopefully build more of a relationship with that teacher. Many teachers stress about going off-content. Perhaps one day per month schoolwide
- Jody: "stress free day" when at OGMS
- Monisha: perhaps by department
- Justin: staggering it might be better. Then students will still come to school and not just stay home.
- Jay: pull parents in (open house, etc).
- Maria: a lot of teachers already know who the parents are that they want to work with.
- Justin to Gary re previous idea: "forced tutoring" or, "student choice"--more buy-in.
- Justin: one difference between this and FC is student involvement. Most times in FC they are learning and being presented to.
- Tess: with school-wide idea, ALL students involved and perhaps the ones being forced into tutoring are ones who need connections most.
- Kelly: if relationships built, students will participate more and work harder for classes vs ones in which they have no relationship or engagement.
- Shay: like both ideas. Most important thing to recognize is what activities are catered towards. StudCo fun because of activities we do-- most important thing is kids feeling comfortable. Many scared to participate if they feel they will be judged. Planning team-building activities ("I got your back) and "force" involvement for team effort. Starts to get fun, and it spreads. Doesn't have to be meaning behind it.
- Jody: pet peeve in classes at this time of year-- when students don't know each other's names.
- Shay: teacher effort. Depends on how teachers structure classes.
- Jody to Gary: could Student Council help with "cookbook" of activities to help teachers.
- Gary: we can, but Link Crew has that.
- Jay: big thing is structuring the time and the allowance of the time.
- Kelly: permission piece/must become systemic in practice
- Justin: value in all ideas we have discussed. Important to have individual classes doing something. However, Gary's suggestion would be beneficial as well-- helping students find others with same interests and build those relationships.
- Cheryl: restructure FC so that info is not just pushed out, get teachers involved
- Justin: don't want to entirely re-do the way FC is done, but maybe split structure

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- Gary: we have Adv in place. Keep FC, but add this in when there are no plans.
- Justin: could make the days they sign up, they can sign up for FC AND this new activity, as one of the Adv is held for FC sign-up
- Gary: get out to teachers now for next year-- what is something you are interested in or a hobby you have that you'd be willing to share with/teach students or use as group theme
- Peris: Do we expect some teachers will be opposed to this?
- Kelly/Jody: Yes, but we can plan and work-out logistics.
- Justin: parent could run if teacher present in room.
- Jay/Kelly: some teachers just not comfortable in settings such as this. Even running sessions of games, video game tournament, etc.
- Justin: teacher comfort-- if teachers were paired with someone else who was running the show, maybe comfort would grow and there'd be more buy-in
- Tess: think about Theatre classes-- take students out of their shell and enhance comfort. Theatre dept seems to be a safe place for a lot of students who may not want to open up.
- Jay: I think teenagers would love the chance to act like children again.
- Monisha: we see that in grad night. They want to play games all night.
- Maria: when adults get involved with the games, that's when the relationship forms.
- Justin: maybe with this, clubs can figure out who would be a good sponsor. Or , can generate ideas for new clubs.
- Jody: this is a good start for enhancing what we have in place. We have committee work over summer, may worth with Student Council over summer, and coordinate with Advisory Committee.
- Justin: can bring to the Adv Committee on Monday
- Tess: LC involvement here would maybe help them feel more useful or help with retention
- Shay: if we're going to move forward with this, needs to be common vision and all teachers need to be on board with this. Gave example of teacher his mom had that made effort to make personal connection with all students. Above and beyond, but want teachers to be able to praise and encourage students.
- Jody: we have had huge increase of staff members going to events. Perhaps inventory all students to find out why favorite teachers are favorites. Generate list of what those characteristics are to share with other teachers.
- Jay: throw all of that information in a pot, and then a committee can structure it.
- Jody: maybe teachers who feel they are being effective are not, or those who feel they are not actually are. Want that information. Let's collect information and feedback to keep adding to these ideas.

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## V. Student Council Updates

*Gary Thompson*

- Peris: Prom April 14
- Amari: April 27, registration April 11. The Pep Rally is same day as game (4/27) and we will be advertising. This Pep Rally is the one that was supposed to be before Prom, but reschedule due to AzMERIT.
- Gary: hope to get more information out to parents as well. Because this is for Make A Wish, want big turnout. Elections happening right now. Transitional time for Student Council right now. Thanked Student Council for being so outstanding these past few years.
- Friday, May 18 after school on Multi-Purpose Field
- Gary: next year's dances are same venues as this year: Ventana (formal) and Skyline (prom). Lucky that we got the rates we've gotten; rates are skyrocketing. AZ Association of Student Council part of national association. The convention will be at Ironwood this year. Looking to take as many student council members as possible this year. Lots of motivational speakers (including one of Gary's favorites Mike Smith) will be there. More ideas for speakers

## VI. FFO Updates

*Monisha Patel*

- Monisha: Working on Grad Night still. Ticket sales a bit low. Deadline is March 31.
- Kelly: may be a money crunch with AP (that registration is March 29).
- Justin: if deadline can be extended until next senior meeting, can offer reminders then.
- Monisha: will look into Grad Night deadline. Looking at budget--looks kind of sad right now. Perhaps call to parents to help bringing in next motivational speaker (parents may give more if there are specific areas to donate to).

## VII. School Update

*Jody Brase*

- Jay: just completed NAEP testing of 46 seniors on March 8. Results become part of National Report card on Science, Math, and Language Arts. We might get overall results.
- Jessie/Justin: AIMS, AzMERIT, and AP updates
- Tess: April 18 from 3-5pm in cafeteria all Arizona colleges/universities have been invited to come for mini-college fair. UA bringing reps from various schools.
- Jody: quite a bit of construction on campus (paint, carpet, fixtures). About half the school this year and the other half the following year. Also hosting summer Community schools again.
- Jody: had a teacher who had to resign for personal reasons. Current English

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teachers filling in this week and next, then Miriam Frieden will be taking over for the remainder of the year. Will be change to long term sub in CE. We think we have low numbers for teachers not returning at this point. When we return from Spring Break, contracts will be coming out. Had Job Fair on a recent Saturday at Valley View. Great candidates. Just now starting to review applicants. Seems to be a better year for hiring.

## VIII. **Call to Public**

*Jody Brase*

- *Individuals who wish to address the site council are requested to complete a blue card. Members of the Board may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda, however the topic may be placed on a future agenda. The Council requests that all comments be limited to three minutes or less.*

## IX. **Closure**

*Jody Brase*

Cheryl Joseph motioned to close meeting at 9:42. Jay Christopher seconded.

*Upcoming meetings:*

*April 20, 2018*