

CATALINA FOOTHILLS HIGH SCHOOL

SITE COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES - # 1

SEPTEMBER 24,, 2021

8:00AM

Present: Jody Brase, Eileen Pastorius, Monisha Patel, Jay Christopher, Jen Miller, Julie Vanegas, Gary Thompson, Robin Larson, Justin Robinson, Bernadette Moreno, Isabela Mendoza, Dylan Hellbusch, Gabe Green, Anna Davis, Edwin Uche

- **Call Meeting to Order**

Jody Brase

- Jody Brase called the meeting to order 8:15 am

- **Approval of the Agenda**

Jody Brase

- Jody called for a motion to approve the agenda
- Eileen Pastorius motioned to approve the agenda
- Gary Thompson seconded the motion

- **Introductions and Update Notebooks**

Jody Brase

- All members present introduced themselves
- Jody will send out the membership list so that we have names: principal, assistant principal, teachers, parents, students, counselor, employee at large and community member (Jay Christopher), non-certified staff (Julie Vanegas)
- Notebooks will be updated and kept in cabinet for those in person - others at home will receive electronic copies

- **Review/approve Minutes**

Jody Brase

- Jody called for a motion to approve the minutes from 4/16/2021
- Jennifer Miller motioned to approve
- Gary seconded the motion

- **Review/approve 21-22 By-laws**

Jody Brase

- Jody: Change of Site Council dates for the 2021-22 school year, asked for any questions (none), and motion to approve
- Jen motioned to approve the By-laws
- Gary seconded the motion

- **Nominate and elect**

Jody Brase

- Jessie Petrillo has completed her term as secretary, so the office of the secretary is up for election.
- Jody: Robin Larson considering taking over for Jessie as secretary/note-taker, any other members wanting to do this let us know - no one raised their hands.
- Jen and Gary motioned, and Robin approved as secretary.

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- **Review Last Year's Accountability Report**

Jay Christopher

- Jody: Accountability Report will be reviewed next meeting.

- **Review Test Information**

Jay Christopher

- Jody: We can refer to Robin, Jennifer, Justin, Jay
- Jay: With the pandemic, not as broad a group of students, it is difficult to analyze testing data at this time - there are usually very few good reasons for a lot of testing, but at least we with so many tests we can triangulate and have a better estimate of how our students are doing.
- Justin : We feel as far as state testing, we had a mix of kids at home who had to come on campus - pretty encouraging how many did come onto campus. It was the first run of AzM2 which before that was AzMerit - content different. This year ACT in place of AzM2 - more buy-in - college admissions exam, AzScience for juniors - then freshman test ACT-Aspire - practice format as freshman for the actual ACT as juniors - like PSAT being the practice for SAT.
- Jay: TUSD has been using it and it is successful - free opportunity for kids to take a college test, used across the country.
- Jody: Brand new to our students - so we are getting info out to everyone regarding the changes (families and students) some info sent out already, but testing will be in April and so we need to have time to prepare for it, so more information of course is coming.
- Jay: Kudos for Jessie and Justin for the number of students tested - like 92%, whereas really poor numbers at other schools.
- Jody: We got the students remote to come in.
- Anna Davis: If in 9th grade we never took the pre-ACT, how would we study for it if we didn't get the practice?
- Jody/Robin: Hoping to provide practice opportunities and study/resources online.
- Justin: Anticipate state level test, they require us to offer some practice format of it, computer-based test, so opportunities to get to the practice interface and go back on to practice from home.
- Edwin: I think it's great to have it offered on our campus - students used to have to take it on a Saturday or go elsewhere, and now it's offered during the school day.
- Justin: It will be offered mid-April.
- Gary: Khan Academy is used to study for SAT.
- Robin: ACT also has free/similar prep materials on their website.

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- Jody: Site Council focuses on different things like advisory - Falcon Connections Days - community and college reps come speak to students about their job/school/experience, and we worked on culture and community and raising school spirit and connections between everyone on campus, and creating a positive climate, remote learning - discussions about difficulties and solutions (what is working and not and what can we do to improve)

What should we focus on this year? Want site council to be a focus to benefit students and/or staff to make sure we are meeting your needs academically and socially. Mental Health? Filling in gaps of learning?

Want to hear from you how are you feeling this year, as students teachers parents and community members about the school year - the “new normal” - how are things going

- Gary - excited about getting back into the classroom and being with kids without barriers, wasn't sure about the learning curve, but kids are getting back into things - joy to interact - some colleagues experiencing more difficulty - learning curve and scheduling and pacing is better because of not dealing with technology, etc.
- Jay - concerned about developmental aspect - 18 months of such a different experience - current sophomores having possibly a freshman type experience - trying to
- Bernadette - working together with a lot of sophomores - placement difficult - also curriculum revision last year so new curriculum - but so good to know kids on more personal level again - kids are eager to engage - current sophomores (9th to 10th) is always difficult, expectation vs reality always hard but this year more so - doing the transition from remote to in person - exhausting - fatigued, training students back to in person - appreciate how flexible counseling are being - mental health. Sophomores are all honors level and “normalize proficiency” - students think getting a B is like an F but a B is excellent - it's proficiency especially during this transition year - causes so much stress. Earning B's is proficient. Concerning that kids are so worried about a B.
- Jody - slowing down with kids is so important right now - get through curriculum at certain pace, but this year is different
- Dylan - outside of classroom - kids don't take those for granted anymore - biggest turnout at football game and volleyball game - everyone on campus wants to get back to doing things again and appreciating it more (taking part - Jody agrees)

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- Gary agrees - kids needed interaction - some shut down and we are now able to have interactions on campus
- Bela - easier to do well because in person - harder to concentrate when remote, retaining info and being present
- Eileen - as a parent, both kids 90% remote - extrovert began changing and introvert became more of an introvert - this year her son said he feels “scarred” missing 9th grade - happy to be back, but there is also the worry about younger siblings getting sick - feels she has to force her kids to do things
- Jody - can students speak to the word “scarred”?
- Edwin - situation not unique to me felt like in this together
- Gabe - upperclassmen easier time during pandemic because already had experience - seat partners now and can get help - practice work with partners lends to kids and teachers teaching you - so helpful - so different to not have a seat partner so nice as a senior to get back to things we had experience with before...can see how it must be for 9th or 10th because no freshman year really
- Jody - you’re speaking about yourself but also about others - I look at the big picture, discipline is different, etc, and this is important for us to discuss - how are things different? Jen?
- Jen - break from discipline issues and now a lot of discipline with perhaps management issues happening - disruption, kids not understanding how to “do school” anymore - tik tok challenge - disrespect towards school - not knowing maybe how to be a student. Teachers are super happy to be back. Gives admin a refreshing side to observing classes.
- Jody - maturity possibly - a little off with level of maturity; socially and being part of a community affected it - perhaps kids aren’t as confident with their learning - could be “threatening” and feeling nervous
- Robin: Study Resources available - Study Cafe, teachers, online resources

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- **Student Council Updates**

Gary Thompson

- Gary: Falcon Academy - voluntary class for freshman who struggle academically - student council sends kids 5th period to help the students. Students explain things well to each other, also making connections with the students who struggle. Falcon Community Club is a group of students who help special needs students to make connections by inviting them to go to games or plays together. Studco will focus on this more in October.
- Dylan: 100 meter dash between clubs, trying to bring more students in on campus and get involved - club competitions year-round.
- Gabe: Trying to have everything take place like it did in the past - whether inside or out, homecoming dance, bonfire, movie nights, talent show.
- Anna: Trying to help unify so we can be together more.
- Gary: Nothing is approved yet - multiple things and waiting to see what is approved.
- Bela: Freshmen elections - excited to have these take place - learning together and eager to have freshmen join. Nov is when elections will be held.
- Edwin: It's a privilege to interact and be involved.

- **FFO Updates**

Eileen Pastorious

- Eileen: So excited to be back in person, volunteers pouring in, spirit wear sales on the rise. Falcon Funds is pretty low, but pushing parents to donate, and staff appreciation is a bit low in number but had a great salad lunch for teachers. Nice for parents to give back and donate even if they weren't able to come in person. Grad night - already starting on it - typical overnight "lockin". Homecoming tickets on sale, recruiting parents from different schools to volunteer. Newsletter going, grade representatives, clothing drive, community schools - looking for students and former graduates for after school sports and care positions, must be 16 and older and have driver's licence.

- **School Update**

Jody Brase

- Jody: We are wearing masks because it is the law. Students are compliant and teachers teach with masks on all day long, so appreciate everyone following directions.
- Covid numbers are low, updated every day, so again, everyone is being compliant.
- Next meeting we will narrow in on focus for this group.
- Nov 5 is our next meeting, and Julie will provide us reminders and the agenda.

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- Thank you for your efforts being on this committee, come talk to any of us, so we know how we can help.
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- **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.*
 - Jody: Call to the public, (no comments or questions).
- **Closure** *Jody Brase*
 - Jody: Meeting adjourned the meeting at 8:15 am.

Upcoming meetings:

~~October 29th~~ - *Change this date to November 5th*

December 3rd

January 28th

April 22nd