

Pajaro Valley Unified School District

NORTH ZONE ADVISORY COUNCIL

October 6, 2008

Aptos High School - Career Center 7:00-8:30 pm

MINUTES

Members Present: *Gene Burk, Jackie Sternat, Jim Lalanne, Andrea Carlos Willy, Sean Spencer, Andrea Miller, Lucy Wilkinson, Hertz, Chris, Karen Richmond, Casey O'Brien, Brian Saxton, Kathy Arola, Chris Hertz, Deb Dorney, Libby Wilson, Kim Turley, Kim DeSerpa, Susan Perez, Judy Ashton*

Others Present: *Heather Gorman, Mike Olver*

Board Member Present: *Libby Wilson, Kim Turley*

Members Absent: *Dianna Higginbotham, Emily Nevitt, Victoria Morse, Lisa Cedarblade, Amy Jeske, Tom Tatum*

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Superintendent Dorma Baker welcomed everyone and began introductions at 7:09 p.m. Dorma introduced Cathy Stefanki, the new North Zone Assistant Superintendent.

Dorma gave a report on the County Office of Education Budget meeting held today. In 2007-08 we were even so we are okay here. There may be midyear money cuts and Mary Hart has been looking at a plan to anticipate that if it happens. 2009-2010 is not a happy picture as we are at this time projecting another round of cuts. We will be looking at this after the new year.

Trustee Turley added that the State of California is in trouble and is looking for a loan from the government. The picture is dismal and we need to look at parcel tax. Last November we had discussions about a Bond but there was no interest at that time and we had a negative reaction.

2.0 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as presented.

3.0 Approval of Minutes

The minutes from September 8, 2008 meeting were approved as presented.

4.0 Principal Reports

Deb Dorney-Rio Del Mar

- Our Harvest Festival took place Friday, October 3rd. It is not a fund raiser and is more of a community building event with cake walk, game booths, etc. but this year we raised double of what we raised last year.
- Our Spectra artist will be using our new Kiln working with clay with all students.
- Our parent group is going to order the furniture and wiring for the computer lab.
- We continue working with our life lab.
- Science camp is next month for our 6th graders.
- We want to continue to be green and be effective with communication. We are looking at parent auto calls.
- Parent conferences are next week.

- We are looking at the Mar Vista Radio system and hope to have a similar communication (Radio Rio) for our school.

Karen Richmond-Valencia

- Our all-accessible garden has been revamped. We have a Sunset garden with a 15 foot table and composting bins. It contains four L shaped boxes. We grow Swiss chard which provides food for the animals. With our crop of tomatoes we are making salsa and with our basil we are making pesto
- We are hoping Food Services will allow growing of vegetables for our students.
- Science Camp for our 6th graders is coming up.
- Our Harvest Festival is on the 24th of this month
- Playground – Our parent, Kim DeSerpa had devoted many hours to the grant writing and managing the boundless playground project which is a first in the area. We will have a big dedication in November.

Casey O'Brien-Aptos High School

- We are looking at process and procedures and solidifying procedures. We are looking at reclarifying school wide goals.
- We are getting ready for a three year WASC visit in the spring. Accreditation takes place every six years.
- We lost the restructured days.
- We have two semi finalists in the National Merit Scholarship
- We had a bike-to-school day with bike races. The students had good fun.
- Athletics is doing quite well with boys and girls cross country. We won the Stanford invitational. Water polo beat Santa Cruz and Soquel after the first round. Golf and tennis are doing fabulous and Football is coming along.
- Homecoming is this week with our parade starting at 6:30 a.m.
- Student Marissa Barante placed in the Mermaid Triathlon.

Brian Saxton-AJHS

- Our school is finishing up with the magazine drive. We have made \$22,000 which is the most money every made.
 - We had 200 plus students who participated in the magazine sales participate in the ice cream gathering.
 - Fifty students were eligible to participate on the limo ride to Fresh Choice.
- Our Girls and the Boys Basketball team are doing great with the Girls Basketball team undefeated.
- Our school play is taking place this week, Wednesday and Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
- Teachers are preparing for grades and they are also looking at test data.
- Brian recognized parents present tonight from his site: Judy Ashton, Jackie Sternat, Jim LaLane

Kathy Arola-Bradley School

- Kathy began by recognizing parents and staff present tonight from her site: Andrea Carlos Willy, Heather Gorman and Casey O'Brien.
- Our 6th graders are preparing for Science Camp.
- We are having our review team review all students-putting intervention into plan.
- Variety Show-theme "Bradley School Got Talent" with the sixth graders emceeding.
- We are preparing for parent conferences and we have our School Book Fair the same week.

- Saturday we have our Beautification Day and work in the garden.
- Our Walk for the Arts is coming up on the 22nd along with our Fall Festival on the 26th.
- We are raffling off two bikes—Library league fundraising to keep library open for next year.
- The Bradley Blog was started and it is going well. SSC wanted the blog for agenda items
- Bradley School received the attendance award for the North Zone

Chris Hertz-Mar Vista

- Chris began by recognizing representatives from his site: Sean Spencer, Lucy Wilkinson and, Andrea Miller.
- We are reveling in making it to the 800 club.
- Mar Vista has a vibrant garden
- Carryover funds good to see but in regards to budget setting , we have spent 55% for supplies already.
- Mar Vista had a smoother start and we didn't need to restructure or lay anyone.
- Our PTA Parent Club is creating a directory great for school culture with names and phone numbers with 70% of our parents opting in.
- Harvest Fundraiser coming up
- Fundraisers we are participating in are: Monte, Toyota raffle, Coffee, and Cookie Sales with fundraising being even tougher now.
- Communication system—A thanks to Dr. Mays as we now have telephones in our classrooms. We also received 50 used imacs thanks to the tech department
- Student Emergency Cards need a space for email addresses—Grant Coffin has been pushing to get email slot on emergency cards
- We have raised \$6,000 for our playground structure.
- There was discussion about where usable items go when a site upgrades. Maintenance and Technology are departments that deal with surplus.
- Brain mentioned an organization, RAFT, over the hills has donated computers that can be purchased. UCSC also has a surplus.

5.0 Items for Report, Update and Discussion

Review District-Wide Goals-Dorma

Dorma discussed the current 2007-08 goals and how they will be looked at and reviewed later this year with the new Board. Assistant Superintendents use these goals with Principals. There was discussion about:

- What do we want to look at?
- How many students pass the CAHSEE?
- How can we evaluate from the goals-Pacing calendar. We have discussed a pacing chart.
- Baldrige strategies.
- Establish a set up like a K report card with Benchmarks-dates.
- We'll evaluate how we are doing with that goal.
- Everyone needs to be brought in and needs to be committed to this.
- District goals specific.
- North Zone goals are vague.

There was discussion about a School Site plan format. Karen Richmond volunteered to get the form to Cathy Stefanki-Action Plan. The format includes a place for tasks. specific person(s) involved along with timeline with dates. Periodic checks are critical. This is a great thing to adopt as a zone—look at our goals and ask are they reasonable goals? Each school could present some data. As a

http://www.pvUSD.net/Schools/North_Zone/north_zone.html

group we can decide what we want as a goal. There was discussion about having a clear plan, essential components, writing smart goals, and having methods of measuring. In respect to AYP and API, where are you supposed to be and where are we at?

Cathy Stefanki called for volunteers for an Ad Hoc group to look at data between now and next year and including data from the last 2-3 years. It was suggested to have site reports in bullet form and to post and email.

Ad Hoc Group: Chris Hertz, Brian Saxton, Karen Richmond, Susan Perez, Casey O'Brien, Mike Oliver and Cathy Stefanki. Agenda: focus on improving our schools. Prepare a single page handout of what each school is doing; have their own data analysis. The date and time to meet was set (at the conclusion of the meeting) for this group for (October 17th) at AHS.

- Libby suggested to send a blurb on concerns at specific sites
- What level is each school implement data team?
- Group send out a questionnaire prior to Nov. 3rd.
- Focus creating Professional Learning Communities. Where are we?

There was discussion about the pros and cons of sharing of Principal Reports--school events in respect to the length of the reports. A suggestion was made to just give highlights. Another suggestion was to place this item later in the agenda.

Suggestions for future North Zone Advisory meetings:

- Need a timekeeper
- Put reports at the end
- Meet and review our data
- Bring back to group
- Principals bring copies of newsletters
- Schools websites

6.0 Visitor Non-Agenda Items

7.0 Future Agenda Items

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.