

**Minutes of May 28, 2014**  
**BHS School Site Council**  
**Conference Room B, D Building**  
**4:15 – 6:00pm**

**Present:**

BHS Staff: Pasquale Scuderi, Anne Busacca-Ryan, Mark Griffin, Dharini Rasiah, Robin van der Vegt

Parents: Landi Ehnle, Sandi Hunt (co-Secretary), Satish Rao, Margit Roos-Collins (co-Secretary), Alejandra Nunez

Students: Sophie Andrews, Jesse Barber, Kevin Flood-Bryzman (co-Chair), Sophia Olaya-Hermes (co-Chair)

**Absent:** Iris Grace

**Others Present:** Hector Cardenas, BSEP Chair

**Call to order:** 4:05 p.m.

**Beginning Business Items** (Decision) – 2 minutes

- SGC Members sign in
- Establish a quorum
- Approve agenda

**Comments from members of the BHS Community** (Information)

All five public speakers spoke in favor of retaining the Assistant Athletic Director position in the BSEP budget, a position currently filled by Andy Waranoff.

Dr. Cindy Chang is head of the Berkeley Athletic Fund, a BHS parent, and a sports medicine doctor. The Athletic Dept. serves kids from the entire school. This spring, the Asst. AD has been able to arrange tutoring for athletes when they can access it, unlike the school's regular after-school tutoring, which occurs during team practice time. Andy Waranoff makes struggling students feel safe about working on their studies. His connections to UC Berkeley mean that he can bring in additional volunteers from the graduate school. In addition to his work helping student athletes succeed academically enough to stay eligible for their teams, he is also tracking the coaches' progress towards completing their legally-mandated training in CPR and first aid. They had discovered that a number of coaches did not have legal, current training and he's been critical in turning that around.

Mark DeLuca, a BHS basketball coach, noted that he's got about 50 students and Andy's helped at least a third of them. BHS does not have enough on-campus head coaches. The school needs to continuously fund positions like the Asst. AD so the kids have access to someone who knows the academic program and is connected to it.

Lynn Signorelli and Pilly O'Donnell, BHS parents, noted how helpful the Asst. AD position has been for the teams their kids play on.

Andy Waranoff said he is trying to give the students he works with a feeling that they are part of the academic community of the school in addition to being part of its athletic community.

**Discussion and Decision on draft BSEP budget (Discussion/Decision)**

Hunt and Rasiah announced that they had located \$25,000, available on a one-time basis only, to help fund the Media Tech position for next year. Source is confidential. That means that at least the school can fund the student support side of the job and if necessary, use the year to rework the rest of the position.

How much money do we need to fully fund the Media Tech position?

Cardenas: Full-time, the position requires \$54,907 for next year.

Roos-Collins: So with \$25,000 in private funding, we would need to cut \$29,907 from the BSEP budget in order to restore full funding to the Media Tech.

Roos-Collins: With half the position funded, next thing to look at is which BSEP programs have greatest likelihood of being funded in other ways. For example, Leveling the Musical Playing Field (\$15,000) is for a program that has traditionally been funded by the Jazz Association. This may not be the year to transfer it to BSEP. They could keep funding it.

Scuderi: You can't count on that.

Roos-Collins: Another option for funding elsewhere is all the BSEP programs (primarily tutoring) that are not .FTE positions. Berkeley Development Group doesn't like to fund ongoing positions (e.g., the FTE's) but they might be ok with increasing their funding for tutors. It's tricky because if BSEP funds the tutoring supervisors but not the tutors, then BDG would have to fund the tutors and they probably wouldn't like a situation where they had to do something in order to make the programs make sense. But it would be a worthy use of the BDG money and would free up money to restore the Media Tech position FTE's.

Rao: Didn't find evaluations for all the programs.

Cardenas: They didn't all get evaluated. The evaluations are all done by BSEP members who are volunteers and vary greatly in sophistication and thoroughness and not everyone did the evaluations assigned to them.

Rao: Can counselors see which interventions (such as those funded by BSEP) kids are using, so school can build knowledge about the effectiveness of the interventions?

Scuderi: Yes, starting this year. The interventions students use will be tagged in their files on PowerSchool.

Cardenas: BSEP is hoping to be able to integrate more effectiveness data into its evaluations as this sort of information becomes available.

Griffin: Why do we need two Athletic Directors? The AD should be able to do this. Why have an Asst AD who isn't necessarily someone the kids can relate to? There are others who can do

this mentoring job to keep student athletes' grades up – it can be done by classified staff, not just certificateds.

Scuderi: The AD's time is fully occupied by coordination and management of athletic programs. The Assistant is a certificated position.

Roos-Collins: How do you see the school working if the other half of the Media Tech position isn't funded?

Scuderi: If we don't get funding for that half of the position, then people will have to learn more about handling their media needs themselves.

Busacca-Ryan: Matt Albinson, head of tech support at BHS, is willing to take back some of the work that the Media Tech has done in helping teachers set up their projectors, etc. A lot of her students start off in athletics and then lose their eligibility. We need to fund our most vulnerable students.

Rasiah: A very small percentage of the Media Tech's position is dealing with the simple things like hooking up projectors, and the Tech Department (Matt, etc.) already does some of that.

Most of what teachers need requires video skills that are more specialized.

Nunez: Why don't the coaches work with the players to help them maintain eligibility?

Scuderi: Good point. Traditionally, an athlete's coach would be the person who would work with him or her to ensure that the athlete stayed focused on academics enough and got any necessary tutoring in order to maintain grade point eligibility for the team. Problem is that we have hardly any on-campus coaches. The great majority of BHS coaches are from off-campus and get only a \$2,000 stipend for their time – it's not enough money for them to stick around outside of practice time, managing tutoring needs.

Rao: Why are the classroom instructional materials funded out of BSEP, with changing amounts each year? A chemistry classroom can't function without chemicals. Why should that be subject to the vagaries of the BSEP budget?

Busacca-Ryan: A lot of schools are teaching without basic science or art materials. Berkeley is lucky to have the extra BSEP funds for this purpose. She has friends teaching art with colored pencils and paper, period.

Scuderi: He tried and failed to convince the district to allot a third of the LCAP funding to the school (since BHS has a third of the students). Therefore, we are short of funds.

Moved by Rao, seconded by Van der Vegt:

Motion to approve the BSEP budget with the following changes:

Remove the \$15,000 for Leveling the Musical Playing Field.

Reduce the funding for each of the tutoring programs proportionally so as to save \$14,907.

Restore \$29,907 in funding for the Media Tech position.

Further discussion on the proposal:

Scuderi: These cuts will affect the most vulnerable students. How is the Media Tech more important?

Olaya-Hermes: Cutting the Media Tech position, even partly, will deeply impact CAS and all of its students. It won't destroy the program right away. It will just do so slowly.

Rasiah: Agrees.

Busacca-Ryan: But with the \$25,000 from the private source, CAS should be okay. This is about the rest of the position – the ways the Media Tech helps the rest of the school. He'd still be there for three periods.

Griffin: There are a lot of black and brown kids in CAS; who are we serving?

Rao: We could substitute student tutors for the paid tutors. Since we have reports of students having a hard time finding tutees, this would solve that.

Van der Vegt: But the EL tutors are bilingual and work with the same kids over time. The funded tutoring positions are skilled positions.

Scuderi: We have a number of positions that are less than full time. We should focus on what services are needed.

Busacca-Ryan: Teachers can use their allotment of \$300 per year from the BHSDG to pay for outside services to transfer materials to different media.

Roos-Collins: Could we consider a second motion to just remove the music funding? That would allow us to restore a quarter of the Media Tech job, which would bring funding to .75 FTE with the private funding.

Cardenas: Have to be careful about creating partial jobs; need to make them sustainable.

Sometimes it's easier for someone to get a second job if they have a .5 FTE, whereas if they have .75 FTE in one place, they don't have enough time left over to take on a second position.

Roos-Collins: We have the data point that the current Media Tech has been able to take on a second job even though he's working a full 1.0 FTE, so that doesn't necessarily apply in the video field.

Scuderi: Focus on the job and not the job holder.

Motion to table the first proposal. Approved.

Motion to vote on the second option first. Approved.

**Roos-Collins moved and Barber seconded:**

**Motion to approve the BSEP budget with the following changes:**

**Remove the \$15,000 for Leveling the Musical Playing Field.**

**Restore \$15,000 in funding for the Media Tech position.**

**8 in favor, 3 opposed, 2 abstaining. Motion passed.**

**Group requested opportunity to vote on first option (remove \$15,000 for music, reduce tutoring funds proportionately to achieve \$14, 907 in savings, and restore \$29,907 for Media Tech position)**

**1 in favor, 1 abstention, 11 opposed. Motion failed.**

Three SSC members will attend the BSEP meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup> to discuss the actions of the SSC.

**Adjournment at 5:25 p.m.**