

**Minutes of May 21, 2013  
BHS School Site Council  
Conference Room B, D Building  
4:15 – 6:00pm**

**Present:**

BHS Staff: Pasquale Scuderi, Robin van der Vegt, Dave Stevens, Jessica Lopez, Janelle Bugarini, Laurie Rodney

Parents: Margit Roos-Collins, Landi Enhle, Diana Kuderna, Satish Rao

Students: Alyssa Pace, Sophia Olaya-Hermes

Absent: Anne Busacca-Ryan, Wyn Skeels, Shira Rothman

Also Present: Karyn Noel, Jorge Melgoza, and Daniel Roose

**Call to order: 4:23pm**

**Beginning business items**

- SSC Members sign in

Because Rita Himes had resigned as Co-Chair and Sophia Olaya-Hermes had not arrived, Alyssa Pace was asked and agreed to chair the meeting

- Establish a quorum

Quorum not established: only one student

- Approve Agenda

Agenda Approved

**Comments from members of the BHS community:** There was no public comment.

**Review and adoption of minutes:** Minutes for April 16<sup>th</sup> and May 7<sup>th</sup> approved, with the corrections discussed.

Sophia Olaya-Hermes arrived and resumed as Chair.

**Update on SSC Role clarification:** We need to get proposed bylaws changes to Christina Faulkner. Our role is not something that the School Board will focus on; instead it will go to the Board Policy subcommittee. CF perspective suggested that we focused on the SPSA and the budgets. Scuderi will speak with Co-Superintendents to get item on agenda. We can work from draft we already have and Scuderi will revise it.

**2013-2014 EIA/SCE Budget Proposal:** Should we vote to approve the expenditure or not?  
Total of \$76, 927 in funds for next year.

Scuderi: The 2013-2014 amount is lower than current year's EIA/SCE funds – tied to enrollment, which has fallen [YES?]. Even if we approve this use of funds, the Parent Resource Center will still be underfunded by about \$9,000. The District is funding a portion from its Parent Liaison fund, but both Principal and Irma Parker think that the District's portion should increase.

Categorical funds, such as these, are tricky because the full amount that the school will receive for the next year is not clear until around now (mid-late May), too late in the year to lay off anyone whose salary can not be fully covered by the funds. It's unclear how schools are supposed to handle that.

We have funded 1.2 FTE from EIA/SCE money.

**Kuderna moves and Rao seconds:**

**That the SSC approve the expenditure of the 2013-2014 EIA/SCE funds on the Parent Resource Center.**

**12 votes to approve (unanimous).**

**Abstentions: None**

**2013-2014 EIA/EL Budget Proposal:**

Presented by Jorge Melgoza. Draft budget approved by ELAC. Projected total budget for next year is \$75,191.

ELAC is asking to support our lead teacher and our bilingual home school liaison, and parent involvement in ELAC. We are also asking for Constructed Meaning [CM] binders.

Priorities for the projected carryover monies of \$10,000 would be 1) bilingual tutors, 2) additional CM binders, and 3) transportation for college field trips for EL students.

We've trained 80 teachers. We have other 90.

Rao: Does the money you're asking for include training?

Scuderi: No, materials only, CD's etc. – We also pay trainers.

Roos-Collins: is it okay to spend EIA/EL money on binders for teachers who may not have any EL students?

Melgoza: Yes, because EL students are distributed throughout the school, so the odds are that any given teacher will have EL students most years. We think CM teacher training is one of the best ways to help EL students.

Roos-Collins: Comparing this budget to the EIA/EL budget for 2012-2013, the amount for the bilingual home school liaison went down by almost \$2,000, but the FTE is the same.

Scuderi: Error. Will come back with corrected budget next time.

Roos-Collins: Question about data. When Heidi gave us information in November the last page had great analysis for the CAHSEE pass rates from 2011-12. But today's data seems to be mostly about CELDT.

Stevens: The reference to "the test" means the CAHSEE, so it's there for each group.

Roos-Collins: Then there's a big drop in pass rates this year compared to last. Example:

46% of the total EL 10<sup>th</sup> graders passed by Spring 2012

25% of the total EL 10<sup>th</sup> graders passed by Spring 2013

Discussion of ideas to improve EL CAHSEE pass rates. The approach used by the Summer Bridge students [leading to 100% CAHSEE pass rate this year] was based on a donation of time and materials from the man who'd developed iMentor for this purpose. The school was lucky to get that donation and the students did the work on Saturdays. [Secretary's note: iMentor is incorporated into 2013-2014 SPSA draft to support math students.]

The students in AMPS, CAS, and AHA [whose pass rates all went up] all practiced the CAHSEE during class using Illuminate. There is a CAHSEE practice test version for English Learners. Problem is that English learners are distributed in classes with fluent English speakers throughout the school, so it's hard to target interventions just for them.

Question about incorporating CAHSEE test prep in the same ways that EL students have been given access to Rosetta Stone.

Rao: Why don't 10<sup>th</sup> grade ELA and Math class give practice CAHSEE exams? How about going over with the kids the mechanics of taking the CAHSEE?

Scuderi: There is usually a constructive response and an expository response. Next year, we want to make sure that students learn how to answer questions in response to a CAHSEE-style prompt.

Melgoza: Our challenge is that all of our students benefit from this, but there is pushback from some families at BHS. The 361 EL students are our kids. Until we see all of our students as "our" kids there will be challenges.

Roos-Collins: What about doing this in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, since the test questions are set to a middle school level? Could serve as a useful review for more students, that way.

Scuderi: CAHSEE is actually aligned with 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade standards, not middle school, so many kids wouldn't be ready for it in 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Scuderi: As long as courses align with ELA standards, the CAHSEE materials are there. What we are trying to promote is to have teachers give writing prompts, including teachers who have never graded writing before. Is there some way to capture what you are suggesting (Rao)? Can we get at what you are talking about with what we have set up for next year?

### **Implementation status of SPSA Action Items 3.2, 4.1 and 4.2:**

Moved by Rao, seconded by Ehnle, unanimous approval to defer this agenda item till the next meeting to allow more time to discuss the draft 2013-2014 SPSA.

### **2013-2014 Draft Single Plan for Student Achievement:**

Reasoning behind Leadership's proposed changes to plan for next year was not discussed. Group focused on understanding what changes were being proposed. Principal explained that last year, School Board had asked BHS to produce a document (an SPSA) that would focus on just one year's action items, but now that they've done that for this year and next, the school wants to return to just using the long-term plan and simply highlight the items that will be emphasized in a given year.

The draft highlighted the new action items, new growth targets (addition of CAHSEE scores) and any other proposed new material. Some highlights: All District middle school math teachers were surveyed to ask their recommendations for student math placement and those

recommendations will be factored in with the placement test results. The school will explore student course surveys. They are looking at possibility of having an in-house math coach who is intimately familiar with the department and students and can help teachers benefit from the latest research and model practices.

Satish Rao: recommends that teachers have a culture of posting homework, agendas, project and test deadlines, online, on Moodle or PowerSchool or elsewhere. This would give parents a more reliable way to ensure that their students were on top of their work. Could improve parent-student-teacher communication. Teachers noted that some of them pass out written agendas at the start of each week in paper form. Satish wants the information online so parents aren't dependent on their kids to provide it.

Robin van der Vegt would like it to be easier to tell sooner which student absences will end up being excused (as when they've gone on another teacher's field trip). Daniel Roose will work with her to try to accomplish that.

**Principal's Report:**

The principal's report was omitted due to time constraints.