

BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL  
 BSEP Site Funds Committee  
 Minutes for December 7, 2015

Meeting Room: BHS Library (D Building)  
 Time 4:30-6:00pm

MEMBERS	ROLE	ATTENDANCE
Sam Pasarow	Principal	Present
Aaron Glimme	Teacher	Present
John Lavine	Parent	Present
Toni Stein	Parent	Present
Cleo Osherof	Student	Present
Abigail Steckel	Student	Present
Nerine Ortiz Pon	Student	Present
Jackson Grigsby	Student	Present
Milan Drake	Parent	Present
Win Kees VanHOut	Parent	Present
Brianna Rogers	Parent	Present
Sarah Cline	Teacher	Present
Rhonda Jefferson	Staff	Present
Alecia Harger	Student	Absent
Max Cramer	Student	Absent
Amber Spencer	Parent	Absent
Keturah Taylor	Parent	Absent
Dwayne Byndloss	Counselor	Absent
Gideon Goldman	Teacher	Absent
Russell Mills Campisi	Teacher	Absent
<b>OTHER STAFF AND VISITORS</b>		
Jessica Lopez-Tello	Staff	Present

**Establish Quorum:** 4:42pm (4 students, two parents, two staff)

**Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting:**

Toni Stein does not feel that the minutes from the November meeting were provided in a timely manner to be reviewed ahead of the meeting, she requested that the committee holds off on voting until the next meeting.

**Motion/Second:** Toni/Glimme

**Votes:** Unanimous. *Motion carries. Minutes will be voted on next meeting.*

**Approval of Agenda-Additions/Changes:**

Mr. Pasarow requested to move his "Principal's comments" ahead of the "Public Comments" portion of the meeting as he has a meeting he has to attend and prepare for.

**Motion:** Nerine/Jackson

**Vote:** Unanimous

**Principal's Report:****Replica BHS Website:**

Mr. Pasarow informed the committee that this morning students brought to his attention a replica BHS website that was made to look like BHS' website that had pornographic content, racist and sexist remarks on it. It was not on the school's domain. It did however spread throughout twitter. The domain the website was located and school officials requested that it be taken down, and they did. A police report was also filed. The domain has a protocol that they do not track IP addresses, so we may not know the person that created the website. This website was not searchable through a normal internet search.

**Town hall meeting:**

Tonight Mr. Pasarow will attend a town hall meeting at the Board of Education office for African American families hosted by Superintendent Evans. It is a working meeting where problems will be paired with solutions.

**Black Studies Department:**

Christina Mitchell was a teacher who left our school in late August and we have been unable to fill the vacancy in her classroom. It has been a big focus for Mr. Pasarow. He is holding interviews for the position. The African American Studies Department at BHS has a history of being really strong and the community is upset at how degraded this department is. We have roughly 3 teachers in this department, and it used to be a pretty robust department.

**December 9<sup>th</sup>:**

The plans for the events on December 9<sup>th</sup> are pretty complicated. Student committee members expressed confusion as to who the assembly is for because they have heard that it was for African American students, but in an email from Mr. Pasarow to all students he said that it was for everyone. Mr. Pasarow clarified that there will be a BSU Sankofa Assembly that will go from 8:27am to 2:07pm. It will expand periods 1 to 6 compressed periods. During that time in the classrooms there will be special curriculum addressing anti-racism. The BSU chose the topics for the curriculum taught. BSU suggested that Math classrooms teach the statistics of racial profiling, history teachers are recommended to teach the idea of reparations for African Americans, etc. The school cannot say that an assembly is for African American kids only, that is against the law in a public school. The BSU wanted this to be an opportunity for black students to be together to heal and affirm their culture and their community, not a space for allies. Unfortunately students cannot be barred allies from the Sankofa Assembly. Students will have to have a permission slip signed to be able to attend the Sankofa Assembly. There are approximately 650 African American students at

BHS, but it cannot be predicted how many of those students will attend. There are many different opinions from our Black, Latino Asian students who think that is a really bad idea on how do we come together as a community to fight racism. Dr. Evans really wanted to have an element where we all came together, so the compromise was that we would have a whole school assembly at the end of the day. The assembly will have performances, speeches, a Q&A from BSU leaders on the stage, etc. Also, during first period the entire BHS community will watch a 20-minute video put together by the Black Student Union to frame the day.

Mr. Pasarow answered questions from committee members who wondered whether visitors will be allowed on December 9<sup>th</sup>. He explained that parents were not allowed, that the assembly is open for students and those who the BSU invited to attend. He did explain that there is a need for parent volunteers, so if parents wanted to attend they could consider volunteering. Ms. Rogers suggested that we should also look into having multi-cultural workshops where students can learn about other cultures, like workshops about Muslims, What is White Privilege? – Conscious workshops are important. She believes these types of workshops can benefit the climate at BHS.

Toni Stein suggested that the assemblies should be filmed and be made available to the BHS community of parents to see.

Wim-Kees van Hout expressed his concerns about people to be pulled in different groups to work through their fears and emotions. He expressed being troubled by it, but is happy that is being addressed in the meeting. He believes is great to have action on these issue, but feels that there should be more open discussions. His fear is that when you separate people that there is no exchange of ideas and lessons that can be learned from one another.

Mr. Pasarow said that December 9<sup>th</sup> will not be perfect, but is a step in the right direction.

### **Restorative Justice:**

Eddie Estrada is on the board meeting for Wednesday December 9<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Pasarow was grateful to Mrs. Rhonda Jefferson for her work in getting the ball rolling with regards to the hiring of Mr. Estrada.

### **December 15<sup>th</sup>:**

The school is doing sexual harassment training on December 15<sup>th</sup>. The power point is finalized and will be emailed the evening of Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> with an opt-out form. Parents will have a chance to view the material their children will see in a 30-minute presentation. This is not a discussion, but rather information dissemination about what is assault, battery, harassment, and consent.

Milan Drake has connections with doctors, life coaches, black professionals, etc that can be available upon request from BHS. He offered helping if the help is needed.

Toni Stein suggests that there should be information on the protocol if students find themselves being harassed. Where do they go to report? – Mr. Pasarow explains that all that is part of the presentation. There will be resources available.

**Public Comment:**

Toni Stein would like to get the number of suspension and expulsions in real time. She also requested once more to put the agenda and minutes in a public forum. Online preferably. Aaron Glimme will look into it.

**P&O:**

Dropped from agenda

**Chair Report:**

No chair report

**SSC Report:**

Hasn't happened. No report

**Evaluation Framework, and Request for Funds Documents, Report and discussion – provide direction to subcommittee.**

John Lavine talks about creating a subcommittee with the purpose to look at existing forms we use for the evaluation of currently funded programs, the application form and the reporting form, to see if there are ways that these can be streamlined, less onerous than they currently are.

People interested in being a part of the subcommittee are as follows:

- Nerine Ortiz Pon
- Toni Stein
- Aaron Glimme
- John Lavine
- Briana Rogers

Sarah Cline is only interested in looking at the grant proposal part, but will drop out after that.

John Lavine and Sarah Cline met with a grant writer who has worked with Sarah for the past couple of year writing her BSEP grant. She knows the grant-writing world, and she was amazed at how different and cumbersome our process was for everyone. Sarah explained to the committee how the process of applying and being evaluated for a BSEP grant works. She explained that two BSEP Site Committee members meet with the grant-writer to evaluate their program in February or March; and the grant-writer doesn't have to do anything to prepare for the meeting. No grant report is written. The grant writer is asked to provide evidence that s/he is doing what s/he said were going to do and that is working, but not with much guidance and nothing is in writing. In turn, the site committee members will prepare a 7 or 8 page report for the committee and explain the program based on the short visit or interview they've had.

The way it should be done, is that if you get a grant, that you are responsible for writing a grant report that shows that you are doing what you said you were doing, and shows how you're being successful or not. Then this body would review the grant report. So the suggestion is that we move our process in that direction. The idea would be that the grant writer would send their grant report to the committee members evaluating the program a week ahead so they have time to review and prepare questions for the grant writer. The recommendation to this committee is to change the current process.

Another thing that was talked about was to align the grant report to the application. This would require a little technology so that when the application is written it can pre-populate the grant report with the information it said was to be done. This would streamline the process for the grant writer.

It was pointed out that the application may be opened to anyone to apply, but that it must be approved by an administrator. While anyone can apply, there has to be administrator approval and be supervised by a staff person.

Aaron also explained that the BHS BSEP site committee is the sole body that decides on whether programs are funded or not. After budget is approved it moves to the SSC who also votes on the budget as voted by the BHS BSEP committee. After that, it moves to the School Board for final approval. The BSEP Site Committee can decide their own process as long as they stick to the Brown Act and Bylaws of the Site Committee.

John Lavine reminds everyone that the committee also has to adhere to what the BSEP measure dictates on how the money should be spent. The committee has to be equitable in whatever measure they have. It has to be consistent whether is a new application or a program that has been consistently funded.

Discussion continued on the process of how funding is decided, the amount of money that is awarded, carryover monies, LCAP, etc. Clarification on the work schedule was also provided (evaluation, grant application, decision process).

Briana Rogers asked about how the information about the application goes out. It was explained that an email goes out to the entire staff with the application attached and deadlines they must follow. All are encouraged to apply. The e-tree was also discussed and Jessica Lopez-Tello shared with the committee that she tried sending the application out to the e-tree but received an email from a parent monitoring the e-tree that it was not the appropriate forum. The committee will look into this possibility again.

Abigail Steckel asked if there are any surveys that go out to the community, and Aaron Glimme explained that surveys were done in the past, but it was stopped because the responses were incredibly low and skewed. The committee at the time didn't feel that at the time it represented the views of the community as a whole. He also suggested, that it can be reconsidered.

**Next meeting agenda:**

- Review of existing programs so we can go through them one by one.

Aaron Glimme will send out a list of the programs for everyone to review.

The subcommittee will meet ahead of the next BSEP meeting. Aaron Glimme will send out a doodle with potential meeting dates and times. Jessica cannot take minutes for the subcommittee.

**Meeting Adjourn:** 6:00pm

**Next Meeting:** January 11, 2016 from 4:30 to 6:00pm