



Hiram Johnson High School
6879 14th Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95820

Hiram Johnson High School
Special School Site Council Meeting Minutes

Date: 10 January, 2019
Meeting Time: 3:45-4:45
Location: Room B224

Call to Order & Roll Call

Members present:

Fernando Rodriguez, Victoria Camargo, Lyn Turem, Garrett Kirkland, Warad Ibkhaitan, Ryan Stockton, Doreion Akins, Janae Mark, Arthur Aleman

Members absent: Mary Struhs, Skye Owens, Alex Visaya

Also present: Ramiro Hernandez, Eduardo Camargo, Jill Thom, Leticia Bucio

SSC Chair Fernando Rodriguez called the Hiram Johnson, Special School Site Council Meeting (SSC) to order at 3:47 PM. Roll was taken by sign in sheet, at start of meeting, 7 members were present (quorum) at this meeting. Mr. Aleman and Mr. Stockton joined the meeting later, after the minutes from the previous meeting had been approved by the council.

The Agenda was distributed, along with the draft minutes from previous meeting which were reviewed.

A motion to accept minutes from the December 6, 2018 meeting, with no corrections was made by Mr. Ibkhaitan, Seconded by Mrs. Camargo. Vote to accept the minutes: 6 yays, 1 abstention (Doreion was not present at the December meeting), passed.

Mr. Rodriguez reminded attendees to sign in.

Mr. Rodriguez asked for update on Teacher Wants and Needs per Google Document set up for teachers to make requests.

According to Mr. Kirkland there are several teacher requests on the google document set up for that purpose.

Mr. Fernandez said that the math department has discussed the need for smaller class sizes for Math 1, and they have made this request in past years as well.

Mr. Ibkhaitan stated that the science department has been discussing pull out for PD Biology Team meetings and a few other things which are on Google drive.

Ms. Turem asked if there was a copy of the items for the council to look at, and Mr. Kirkland said he would figure out how to print that out and could probably email that to council members as soon as tomorrow.

Mr. Kirkland stated that some of the things on the Google document are already covered, and some things will be items to discuss for next year.

Ms. Turem stated that this is why it is important to have it in print so we can go through each thing, mark what will be for next year on there and for this year.

Mr. Kirkland stated that next year's budget information was released to him just before the meeting started (3:46pm) and he will email that information to council members by next week.

Mr. Rodriguez asked whether there was anything else from members about the needs and wants. As no one had any other questions or comments, he moved the meeting on to Public Comment.

Members of the public may address the School Site Council (SSC) on non-agenda items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. Please limit comments to five (5) minutes with no more than 5 minutes per single topic so that as many people as possible may be heard. By law, the SSC is allowed to take action only on items on the agenda. The Council may, at its discretion, refer a matter to district staff or calendar the issue for future discussion.

Public Comment

There was no public comment

Mr. Rodriguez asked if council members had anything to add.

Ms. Turem mentioned that Mr. Perez (AP) had requested that time to present new aspects of the School Safety Plan be put on the agenda for the next meeting so the council can vote on its approval.

Mr. Stockton stated that, with regard to the Safety Plan, a lot of teachers are concerned about the lack of curtains in the renovated classrooms. Also, without curtains, projector images used in instruction are very difficult to see on the screen.

Mr. Kirkland stated that he believes that the district is going to move to TVs though not in the next year. He also stated that administration is communicating with the construction company but curtains have to be ADA approved which is taking a little longer, but it is in the works.

New Business

Line Item Updates

Mr. Rodriguez asked about budget and line item updates.

Mr. Kirkland stated that there are funds available; the LSC position is not going to be filled and he would like to see that money reallocated back into the campus as soon as possible, before budget time slows everything down. He stated that the new budget is going to slow us down soon and he would like to get going on getting this money back on campus in the next couple of weeks. There are three EL people who are committed right now that Mr. Hernandez is working with – to see what hours they can work and post for 4 – 6 hour instructional aide positions to work with EL students, and there is some stuff we can get here on campus.

Mr. Ibkheitan asked whether we can spend the money before it gets tied up on things that we can use this year? Mr. Kirkland responded that the LSC position was funded from multiple funds; it can be used for the EL aides and for things we need on campus. He stated that the community educator position we were trying to get has been redefined and now that position only work with adults, but his best guess is that the aide position would work for us. Those aides would go away at the end of the year, unless we continue to fund it from the budget, but there would be remaining money that we can put into facilities, clubs, classrooms and other places on campus that would stay on the campus.

Ms. Turem asked if there is a cost difference between the position we were planning to use and the aide position.

Mr. Kirkland stated it would be a cost difference because it is now half a year, and we would have to find out how many hours or days they can work before we know how much it would cost to hire them.

Mr. Ibkheitan asked if they speak the languages we needed coverage for.

Mr. Hernandez stated that two speak Spanish, a potential fourth speaks Dari, one speaks English.

Mr. Kirkland stated that after speaking with the volunteers about days and weeks and hours, he can put a number to that. He would like to discuss the possibility of looking at those numbers and putting those people on campus and putting the rest of it into the teachers and students hands for classrooms, activities, and programs that would stay with us.

Mr. Stockton asked that since the fourth person that speaks Dari is not set down now, but we could really use someone who speaks Dari, can we create that and hire later after the slowdown with the budget stuff?

Mr. Kirkland said that we have some positions that have not been filled and this might fit one of those positions. Also, it is better to talk to them first because if we post it to make sure they can do the hours posted. Also, we may have to get someone from the district pool who could be waiting a position that matches ours.

Mr. Rodriguez mentioned that there is some funding not being used, \$125,000 from the LSC position, also the 6 work study students from Sac State - \$21,000 which are title one funds of which 61% has to be used directly for the students, not for materials

Mr. Kirkland stated that priority schools can spend some of that outside the classrooms, but it needs to be clarified.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that there are also LCFF funds that are a bit more flexible.

Mr. Kirkland stated that we should get the funds allocated soon because next year's budget is going to slow things down.

Ms. Turem asked if the position for the instructional aide can be listed as a bilingual aide in case an aide in the district pool takes it but is not bilingual.

Mr. Kirkland stated that it would be best to talk with our volunteers and find out what hours and days they can work first and then post the position.

Mr. Stockton asked whether the post could state that we prefer bilingual. Mr. Kirkland stated that he does not think it can be listed as required, but it maybe it can be stated as preferred.

Mr. Ibkeitan asked how to proceed to allocate the money before the slowdown occurs.

Mr. Kirkland stated that the next thing to do is talk to the volunteers and get the dollar amount and take it from the \$140(K) and take the rest and put it into class rooms and programs.

Mr. Ibkeitan asked whether we take the list of teacher wants and needs list altogether and put it on the table and decide what to approve?

Mr. Kirkland stated that this is what the committee has to decide. We have to decide how many meetings we want to have. We have one in February, but that should be for next years budget discussion. If we take the money out of the \$140, the rest can be set aside for stuff. Remember how it worked last year? We set the money aside for things like supplies, subs for special ed to do paperwork, we did not have to meet for that. If we decide to put it in the budget as aides and the rest on stuff, we can keep you updated online and everyone can keep their eyes on it, or we can have three more meetings.

Fernando stated that it is important to know that SSC is responsible for school improvement decisions as well. So we can speak to that funding. At the end of the day, SIG can give recommendations.

Mr. Kirkland stated that that needs clarification because SIG is a consensus and it does not need to pass through SSC.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that last year, SIG had to get SSC approval for this funding.

Mrs. Camargo stated that she would like to know where the funding allotted for parent involvement is being used as she sees no evidence of it.

Mr. Kirkland stated that it is usually requested by PTA or PTSA and that is usually how it goes to parents. We can look to have classes for them, but it usually goes through PTA or PTSA or parent groups.

Mrs. Camargo stated that we do not have a PTA and can't get one.

Mr. Kirkland stated that we can decide how to allocate that money to get find ways to get parents involved, but it is better when parents request things that they find useful.

Mrs. Camargo stated that there was another club, later remembered it was Boosters Club.

Ms. Turem asked whether Revive the Pride is going to be returned.

Mr. Kirkland stated that they do want to continue that, it got stymied when the field opening was cancelled. There were some alumni plans for that, and there is a big alumni fundraiser planned for spring with an art sale or auction.

Mrs. Camargo stated that there were many alumni on campus for the field opening who came from different states but they had to disburse because of the smoke when the opening of the field was cancelled by the district.

Mr. Rodriguez asked about the work of the people Mr. Kirkland spoke of at the last meeting who are doing parent outreach. He asked if anyone is keeping track of outreach calls to parents.

Mr. Kirkland stated that they have tried some Warrior Café meetings but not many parents have come. We have done instagrams, web pages, aps. He reiterated that they are trying.

Mr. Rodriguez asked if there was anything else with regard to the funds in the SPSA anyone would like to speak on?

Mr. Kirkland said before we move on are we going strike in the next few weeks, we need to make a move.

Mr. Ibkeitan stated that he is more than happy to meet sooner than next month to get the ball rolling if that helps.

Mr. Kirkland said that if the council is okay with us moving forward with a tentative plan to secure these three or four people, based on their schedule, verify with HR that there is no hang up, and then we work to get the rest of the money spent on campus. We will start to put forward numbers and lists and email those out or put them on a Google doc with updates, and keep people informed like that, but it takes Michelle time to get these things going. He feels this is the most expeditions way to get the ball rolling.

Ms. Turem voiced her concern that we do not have the teacher wants and needs to look at here on the table and we don't know what is on that list that applies to these funds. She stated that she personally

feels that the EL aides should be something that we get going on, but we do not know what the stuff is that teachers are requesting or what funding source or year they belong in.

Mr. Kirkland stated that we don't know how much the aides will be either.

Ms. Turem asked whether they were coming out of the same funding source, and Mr. Kirkland agreed that they are. Ms. Turem asked about the PD requests, and Mr. Kirkland stated that PD is already funded, we do not have to spend on that. Ms. Turem felt that it would be better to have a list with things categorized by what it is and what area it is under for funding so we could look at it and then vote on it. It is difficult to vote on things when we don't know what they are, what they are for, or how much they cost.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the council should not vote on things that we do not see in concrete detail.

Mr. Kirkland asked how we can then move forward with the aides if we don't have the numbers for that?

Ms. Turem stated that by moving on, he can look at hours and days and numbers and then the council can look at that.

Mr. Kirkland said that this would take time and more meetings and hold up the ordering process for the supplies that teachers have requested. At some point we have to trust us to do our administrative work and to bring it to this board for approval and consent, and if you don't trust us to do our administrative work, it's going to get very bogged down, because next meeting we have to start talking about the budget I just got today.

Ms. Turem said that this is not about trust, it is about knowing what we are voting on.

Mr. Kirkland asked if we need to meet every time someone put something on the list – that if he has to bring it to the council every time it will slow things down. Every future meeting should be discussing the budget.

Ms. Turem said that this special meeting was supposed to be about this money and how to allocate it and we have nothing to look at.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that we had asked for this information last meeting for this one.

Ms. Turem asked if we can see the Google doc. – he said we can.

Mrs. Camargo stated that students and parent/community members of the council do not have access to the Google doc. They will not have ongoing access either, so how will we vote on it?

Ms. Thom stated that the Google doc was created to plan and prepare for next year.

Ms. Turem stated that we need to know how things on the document should be broken out for this year or next year etc. This was a meeting for the funds that we need to spend this year.

Mr. Kirkland stated that we are basically looking at class and program supplies.

Ms. Turem asked whether we should meet again to go over it and be clear about what is being spent and on what?

Mr. Rodriguez stated that we should not vote on things we do not know – especially if we don't know the dollar amount.

Mr. Kirkland asked whether we can we make motions to buy the things on the lists that teachers need or are we against buying the horns and drums for the band, or physics equipment?

Ms. Turem said that it is not that she is against it, it is that we need to know costs and how many we need, and what we have to work with.

Mr. Kirkland stated that that was totally fair enough, some of it is in the budget, some is from the district funds, but if we hire those aides can we start buying things before it doesn't start happening fast enough.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that it is a bad idea we should not approve anything without actual numbers with actual dollar amounts – this is how we got in trouble last year, because we were vague about things we were approving. This is why we have funds we need to be approving now.

Mr. Kirkland motioned that we take the \$140k, secure the aides we can secure, and spend the rest of the money for class and school supplies on the list. Council will be informed about expenditures and be given the lists.

Mr. Ibkeitan seconded the motion. Mr. Stockton asked who would be prioritizing the items.

Mr. Kirkland said he would be.

Mr. Ibkeitan asked whether the council would be able to look at the items and say yes or no?

Mr. Rodriguez stated that it is not a good idea to put a lot of things together in a motion.

Doreion Akins stated that he had to leave. Mr. Kirkland asked him to stay for the vote. Mr. Rodriguez informed him that he is not obligated to vote. Doreion said he had to leave and left the meeting.

Ms. Turem said the motion is to spend the money, then Mr. Kirkland would send the list out later, and we would vote on spending the money.

Mr. Kirkland stated he would keep everyone informed and get us the lists before Michele orders the stuff, but if we don't get moving on this it is just going to get jammed up.

Mr. Ibkeitan asked if it would be possible to get the list together by next week. Mr. Kirkland stated that he could try, but it would be difficult to get teachers to get all their requests in by then. Ms. Turem asked if staff could be told to get their requests in by a specific date so we can look at it. Mr. Kirkland said we have encouraged teachers to get this in.

Mrs. Camargo stated that there is a motion on the board that either has to be retracted or voted on.

Mr. Kirkland said that he could not retract in good conscience.

To summarize a great deal of back and forth conversation:

Mr. Kirkland expressed that the council needs to vote to approve the spending of the money remaining for last year by finding out the hours and days the volunteers can work then posting for the EL aides, and by buying the items that teachers have listed. He does not want to wait until next week because he believes the new budget will require a lot of our time. He also expressed a concern that if the council waits until next week to vote, things may get slowed down and the teachers will not get what they are asking for.

Some members were concerned about passing this motion because although this special meeting was called to decide on how to spend the money that was not spent on the LSC position, \$125,000 according to Mr. Rodriguez, no itemized lists or any concrete information at all was provided that indicated what we would be approving the monies for. There was also concern because of an audit on the council two years ago, as well as the issues which created the extra funding we are trying to get voted on at this time.

Some members expressed that they would like to see the money approved at this meeting so the items would get to the teachers and programs faster.

A vote was taken: 4 for, 4 against. Mr. Rodriguez cast the deciding nay vote. The motion failed.

A motion was made by Mrs. Camargo, seconded by Ms. Turem to extend the meeting by 15 minutes. Unanimously passed.

Mr. Stockton motioned just to hire the aides. Mrs. Camargo stated that a motion should be specific.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that he wanted to let the SSC know that a vague vote without specific details is how the council fails audits.

Mrs. Camargo stated that a motion could also include a time to return to follow up on the rest of the needs.

Mr. Stockton retracted his motion because he did not have specific information.

There was more discussion which did not end in any definitive answers – the numbers for aides or items were not listed and brought to the meeting for the council to work with, the principal felt that it is

perfectly appropriate to just state school supplies and an amount, aides and an amount without being specific.

Mr. Rodriguez asked if anyone would like to meet again soon, or next week.

Ms. Turem stated that she wants to meet again, but she would like Mr. Kirkland to move ahead with finding out how much the aides for the EL program will be. Mrs. Camargo asked what amount to cap that at. Mr. Ibkeitan stated that he did not want to cap it because aides are important. Ms. Turem did not want a cap either but also did not want to vote blind.

Janae stated that she as a student would want the things are needed sooner than later. She stated that her textbooks for Chinese some are older and some are newer, and that her class needs headphones.

Mr. Kirkland stated that we have cash in hand, it takes 4 weeks to hire, 6 weeks to order supplies. and it won't hurt the money to vote. Ms. Turem stated that this is not about hurting the money, she would like to know what things are being voted for and what they cost.

Mr. Rodriguez stated that the time is up and we needed to end the discussion.

Mr. Stockton motioned that the council vote to meet next week. Ms. Turem asked which day. The council decided to vote to meet on Thursday the 17th at 3:30 pm. Mr. Stockton asked that we be provided with information for next week so we don't have the same issue.

Mr. Aleman stated that it would be easier if we had

Mr. Rodriguez motioned that we meet next Thursday the 17th, at 3:30pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Rodriguez ended the meeting at 5:02 pm.

Announcements: no announcements

Mr. Rodriguez dismissed the meeting at 4:56pm.

Special Meeting January 17, 2019 at 3:30 pm in room B224

Next regular meeting: February 7, 2019 at 3:45 PM, Room B224

These minutes were approved on 1/17/13

Rebecca Turem, Secretary.