

All SAC Meetings for the 2023/24 year will be conducted in person in the Library unless specific notice is given otherwise.

Guidelines for in-person SAC Meetings:

Interested parties and members of the public may participate in the meeting by attending in-person any scheduled SAC meeting.

All members of the public wishing to speak at any in-person SAC meeting will have an opportunity to speak on agenda items following the presentation of any agenda item, and on non-agenda items during the “General Comment” portion of the meeting.

School Advisory Council Members 2023/24			
School Advisory Council Admin/Teachers		School Advisory Council Parents	
Mary Lonhart, Principal	x	Scott Brown	x
Jenny Anderson, Vice Principal	x	Jeremy Chen	x
Paul Brennan, Vice Principal	x	Julie Cheng	x
Tracy Calimquim (Mathematics)	x	Jessica Johnson	x
Kim Brown (Electives)	x	Jenny Meeske (SAC Chair)	x
Josie Warren (History)	x	Suzanne Nestor	x
Alana Mercer (English)	absent	Kristi Pearce-Percy	x
Lisa Mitchell (P.E.) * Jeff Newman (PE)	x	Carl Peterson	x
Raneem Alsharif (Science)	x	Rijwana Quazi	x
Caitlyn Reynolds (SPED)	x	Melissa Rofer	x
Kristie Mullikin, (Counselor)* Sara Tiscareno-Kennedy, (Counselor)	x	<i>*shared position</i>	
LGEF/One Community Rep.		HSC Board Rep.	
Jessica Johnson	x	TBA	

R.J. Fisher Middle School
Home and School Club Meeting Agenda
Sept. 19, 2023 - 5:30pm

CALL TO ORDER

APPROVE MINUTES - May 2023

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Mary Lonhart

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Ru Paster

- Vote on new OCLG Liaison: Gigi Harrell
- Present Board Slate for 2023-2024

TREASURERS' REPORT – Kimi Mentz & Bonnie Pang

- Present proposed budget for 2023-2024 for approval

EVENTS CHAIR REPORT- Janice Yeh & Joanna Whitley

- Fisher Fling

ONE COMMUNITY LG LIAISON REPORT- Gigi Harrell

- Family contributions: Installments and payouts

PARLIAMENTARIAN'S REPORT - Victoria Contreras-Wolfe

- Recruitment: Teacher Appreciation role, Board replacements

OLD BUSINESS / NEW BUSINESS

R.J. Fisher Middle School
School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting Agenda
Sept. 19, 2023 - 5:45 pm

A. CALL TO ORDER - 6:06pm

B. WELCOME - Jenny Meeske - Chair

C. APPROVE MINUTES of May Meeting

Motion: Suzanne

Second: Scott

D. APPROVE AGENDA for September Meeting

Motion: Mary

Second: Jessica

E. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Kristi Pearce-Percy

Rijwana Quazi

Melissa Rofer

- Review purpose and function of SAC

Mary: main role is to review / edit / give input to school on the strategic plan, as required by the State of California. The strategic plan is a community-driven document; the document then is revised to tailor the need at Fisher MS.

Safety plans will also be brought to attention.

Last school year, the early-out Wednesday was thoroughly discussed, based on survey

and many input here in the council.

Jenny: the committee here may refer to the previous SPSA, and the SAC's mission, which are posted online.

Jessica on LGEF: school supplies and science notebooks, and back-to-school nights are highly appreciated. A new giving tool has been implemented; it will split the donation more easily. Students loved the STEAM nights. 125 students got trained. Fisher students ran the show.

For staff: Oct 9 is the due date for innovation grants. Please write a proposal, which will be reviewed by the committee.

New band teacher (Ricky) is a gifted harpist. He held a play in school.

F. SAFETY / FACILITIES UPDATE

On Oct 18 there will be 2 district-wide drills. There will be another drill in the spring. Trainings will be provided, getting new employees up to speed.

We work with IT systems, cameras, gate code, card readers. The scope is big. It takes a team to think about these. We aimed for implementing these at the end of this year.

Update for the power outage earlier this semester: PG&E tracked down the issue as soon as possible that day. The transformer was blown. PG&E came in to put in the new fuse, but it popped again. They later put in a new transformer, thereby addressing the issue.

How did the pilot for cameras go? We looked into non-proprietary technologies so that the school staff has more control of the systems and have more compatibility. We also make sure that we'll take the same approach for the elementary schools. In this matter, we do not plan this together with the Los Gatos Saratoga High School district, though we collaborate on other matters.

Bathroom issues:

Paul: some students played with soap dispensers 3 years ago. A solution was implemented back then but a refill cost 10 times more. There was a recent incident that some students removed parts from the dispenser; and we found who the students were. We are working on other vendors to find alternative and economic solutions.

Mary: the student body this year has been behaving well.

Thomas: No repair for drinking fountains yet.

Some students felt afraid to use the bathrooms during the school time.

Suzanne: Will there be a beautification project?

Yes, it is being considered.

Rijwana: why are students afraid to go to bathrooms?

Answers: we caught people filming for tiktok. Some students threw burritos, etc.

Some bathrooms are more frequently used, but a potential solution is that some other restrooms are not as widely used (single use, end-wing bathrooms).

G. NEW BUSINESS

- **West Valley Youth Theater** - Mary Lonhart

Mary: Formerly known as Los Gatos Youth Theater, it had a long-term relationship with Fisher MS. There are different levels of rentals (e.g. non-profit, private). Suzanne's children had the last production shows before the COVID shelter-in-place.

We want to let children have junior-college level performances. We agreed to use this theater for the last time last year. For the next year, there is a pleading case. HSC agreed to sponsor the production to support the cost. So, the last year was another year for HSC to support. We didn't get enough kids to sign up. West Valley Youth Theater sponsored 5th graders to increase the number of students to meet the threshold. West Valley Youth Theater is welcome to use our facilities, just like any other outside organizations, to pay market values. The theater is very important to the kids, similar to Little League, Jewish Community Center, Math Lessons. So, Fisher needs to step back from being the responsible party. We use this opportunity to clarify the role of the Fisher MS and Mary (principal), as the information on Facebook is incorrect.

We had a club date last week. We have 2 clubs (focusing on dance & music respectively). One club got more than 50 students signed up.

We recognized that students who are interested in music are also interested in theater. We tried to set up our own theater program so that the timing will work well for the students.

Parent: student (at 5th grade) became more confident when they came into Fisher. Same for parent too.

Scott: a theater club is not at the level of the Youth Theater. This kind of activity is very intense, with many people involved. It may be a lot easier if this happens immediately after school.

The school can contract with an outside organization.

Liability was an issue but not the forcing factor. The main factor was that HSC should not have been the organization running this. It should have been the principal and the staff that run a program that is sustainable here at school. The school offered the WV Youth Theater to use Fisher MS in the same way as other organizations. But they denied, because they prefer HSC to back up financially, free rent, etc.

Suzanne: I produced the last show. I was quite intimately involved. I knew the background, and knew the confusion about the role of HSC and the WV Youth Theater. One of the rules was that a district employee needed to be onsite. But the employee went on leave. It created complexity that people didn't understand. WV Youth Theater just wanted to come in to do the show, without any financial risk. It is essentially not doable. Even parents needed to get background-checked, but they weren't willing to pay an extra cost for background checks. It was a huge amount of effort to get this show up and running.

Mary: we appreciate the ongoing support from HSC. I just wanted to share these information for you.

Scott: it is going to be hard. We want to communicate these to the community.

Mary: I made a note. It is frustrating that WV Youth Theater was not straightforward to communicate to the parents, even though they knew where the school and the district stood.

- **District-Wide Facilities Master Planning** - Terese McNamee

The last plan was done 10 years ago; and the plan was implemented. The facility is in good condition. There is no major issue. We do this planning again to identify problems, and how we go about solving these problems. It is at 10,000-ft level.

We published the schedule on the district website. We already have a facilities steering committee, including board members, staff, parents. We also broadened to include people who sent their applications. We are going to HSC, SAC, resource councils, principal's meeting, staff meeting. We also get survey info from kids. There is also a design project from kids, where they can present their design.

The driver of this planning is to implement the strategic plan (a 6-year plan). We are in the 4th year.

We also learned that a simple generator won't solve the problem. It's because there are 15 HVAC systems for 15 offices, that will draw a large spike of powers when PG&E turns the power back on. And then the power draw will stabilize. So if we want to work with PG&E, we will need a more powerful generator.

Suzanne asked if the on-site facility and systems assessment is available online for people to review.

Fisher and Van Meter have more darker color, as they have more needs for

improvements. Some systems are at the end of their lifetime. These plans were done over the summer.

We looked at the trend of student population, and found that the trend is flat now. For now, we don't have enough rooms to make our music program better and more spacious, for example. Another example is if we have enough room for performing art, or for all other programs that we are offering. The answer is no. We don't have enough rooms for all these programs. These diagrams help us understand the utilizations.

Bonds are the usual ways to get these done. We have done refinance with lower interest. We need to prioritize these work items. Architects will help us generate a cost estimate. Nov, 2024 is the time to do the bond. We plan to start the construction in 2026.

We send out surveys in ParentSquare (this / next weeks) to learn from parents what work items are important to them.

We may survey again after we revise the plan. We will also go back to check the checkboxes in the survey to see if they work correctly.

There are some preset work-items such as HVAC, art, sustainability etc.

Suzanne asked if we can have short-term improvements.

The steering committee meets often. Sometimes HSC decides to do this kind of project like STEAM lab. The steering committee discourages HSC to do these projects, as these projects are generic and are subject to the State's requirements. An example is a shade in an elementary school, which needs careful planning and be compliant with DSA (Dept of State Architecture).

The 196 Architects that we worked with had experiences and have come up with beautiful designs for other schools.

When there is rain, gym and MPR are open. There should be plenty of space. There are also areas where tables are out under the overhang.

Shade is an issue that people have identified for a long time. Umbrellas only solved these problems for a short time. We also considered the amount of solar panels that worked the best. For example, solar panels were considered in front of the MPR, but that location did not work out.

Some roofs were not ready for solar panels. Lexington's roofs were built with solar in mind.

Pop-up tents can be useful for outdoor concerts. They will be useful to cover more students during the concerts. The school has quite a lot of these. HSC was not at a large scale to buy these; the district may be at the correct (and larger) scale to purchase these if needed.

Our district is fairly open to the community after school too, so this long-term project still benefits the community. The tracks at Daves Ave and other elementary schools are new and great.

The grass inside the track at Fisher was approved to use artificial grass; it's in the queue (Blossom Hill is being worked on).

Surveys are also on the District website (the last slide) under Facilities

regarding the Master Facilities Plan.

H. MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2023-24 - Mary Lonhart

1. Wednesday - October 11, 2023
2. Tuesday - November 14, 2023
3. Tuesday - December 12, 2023
4. Wednesday - January 10, 2024
5. Tuesday - February 13, 2024
6. Tuesday - March 12, 2024
7. Wednesday - April 17, 2024
8. Tuesday - May 21, 2024 (combined with HSC)

Mr. Cal: the meetings won't overlap with staff meetings?

Suzanne: I am almost positive, because I worked with Mary to check the schedule.

Mary: will double check.

I. GENERAL MEMBER / PUBLIC COMMENT

J. FUTURE TOPICS

- SPSA Goals Summary
- EOW Update and Survey

Julie: is there another Panorama survey?

Mary: yes, we will share that next time.

L. NEXT SAC MEETING - Wednesday, October 11, 2023

M. ADJOURNMENT - 7:42pm.