

Total members present: 7
Quorum (50% + 1): yes

El Puente School Site Council Minutes

Thursday, September 9, 2021 (Virtual - Google Meet) 2:15 p.m.

1.0 Call to Order

The virtual meeting was called to order by William Wagener at 2:20 PM.

2.0 Roll Call

The following people were present: William Wagener, Chair; Jonathan Green, Principal; Paul Cooper, Vice-Chair; Tammie Wood, Secretary & Parent; David Gross, Teacher; Rodney Atchley, Teacher; Cheryl Darlington, Principal's Secretary.

3.0 Changes to Agenda

None

4.0 Reading and Approval of Last Meeting Minutes

8/19/2021 Minutes: Paul Cooper made a motion to approve the August 19, 2021 meeting minutes. David Gross seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5.0 Public Comment

None

6.0 Reports

6.1 Report on ELAC

There has not been an ELAC meeting as of yet. There will be a joint meeting with Mt. Toro on September 29th at 6:00 PM.

6.2 Parent Report

Tammie Wood asked about the status of required community service hours for the class of 2022. Will community service hours be waived or the number of hours required decreased? Principal Green stated that a proposal was brought to the School Board asking that they be reduced; however, the School Board asked that they revise the proposal to waive the hours completely for this year's graduating class. This will be further discussed at the next District School Board Meeting.

Tammie Wood asked about the fall-out of the controversial issues that occurred with some Salinas High students, staff, and administration as discussed at the last District School Board Meeting. No El Puente students appear to have been involved; however, we had a

student speak about the incident at the Board Meeting. There will certainly be some potential policy/administration changes as a result of the incident.

6.3 Student Report

None

6.4 Staff Report

WASC deadlines were brought up as a concern. It takes a couple of months to write the necessary documentation and 6 weeks have elapsed since the last discussion. It was stated that some of it has been written and can be found in the shared drive. Principal Green stated that there will be more information available at the next meeting. We are hopeful that we will qualify for the maximum number of years of accreditation (6 years).

6.5 Administration Report

Principal Green presented enrollment numbers. Current enrollment is at 387 students. 158 are in-person plus 64 students in HiSET. 165 students are participating in distance learning (56 in Middle School and 109 in High School). They continue to add more students to the distance learning program. There is currently a wait list of approximately 25 Middle School students and 70 High School students. Principal Green expects to have enrollment break 400 in the next week or two with the addition of distance learning students. There could be approximately 440 students by the next School Site Council meeting due to the pressure from Special Ed to allow students access from home.

Principal Green also discussed additional Staffing recommendations. They are currently in the process of hiring a Social Studies teacher. There is an ELD teaching job posted; however, nobody has applied as of yet. They are currently hiring an AP of Alternative Education. This will be a big umbrella position that will include El Puente, Mt. Toro, and Carr Lake. They are hoping to house this position at El Puente which will give us more access to this staff member. They are also in the process of interviewing for an Intervention Specialist replacement and are in the approval process for a third Intervention Specialist.

Some of the areas of recent success are as follows: 1) El Puente is now on Social Media. They are trying to add little blurbs about students as they graduate or achieve special milestones. 2) Teachers are reaching out to parents using translated phone calls. This has allowed for much more accessibility to parents that speak languages other than English. It is machine translation, but seems to work quite well. Texting translation service is coming soon. 3) We have rolled out the "Lone Wolf" program for students needing intervention. The "honeymoon" stage has worn off and student laziness and/or baggage is beginning to show. This program lets the administration know that there is an issue sooner. There is a process in place to first contact the parents, then the Intervention Specialist, and if necessary the Principal. There are currently 24 submissions. 4) El Puente has really been improving the efficiency of our electronic processes.

Some of the areas of growth are as follows: 1) Continuously enrolling students can be a bottleneck. Other schools enroll cyclically. Since El Puente has to continuously enroll throughout the school year, we need to ensure efficiency. 2) We need to increase digital engagement / work completion. 3) We need to continue to ensure staff stability as well as hiring experienced staff. 4) We need to be prepared for WASC in the Fall so that we are ready in the Spring.

Paul Cooper brought up concerns about new staff not having any alternative education experience. This is a brand new culture and is radically different from traditional schooling. Principal Green stated that most of the new staff without alternative education background is in Middle School. This is why they were eased into the program with only 2 classes. They will be integrated into the full independent study model of having only 1 class at a time. They have done a very good job considering they do not have the experience with this school model.

We need to continue to “myth-bust” the misunderstanding of the nature of alternative education.

7.0 Unfinished Business

7.1 Budget Details

Principal Green provided further details regarding budget moves presented in the August 19, 2021 meeting as follows:

All moves within the budget affected the CSI-ESSA Grant.

We decreased object codes 4200 by \$18,000.00; decreased 4300 by \$21,500.00; decreased 5600 by \$22,500.00; decreased 5800 by \$12,000; decreased 5850 by \$8,000 and increased object code 4400 by \$82,000,000.00.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Object Code</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Goal</u>
School Intervention Tracking Software	\$15,000	5850	CSI-ESSA	1.2
School-Parent Interaction Software	\$9,500	5850	CSI-ESSA	1.7
Intervention Curriculum Software	\$2,500	5850	CSI-ESSA	1.7
School Communication Software	\$2,800	5850	CSI-ESSA	3.3
School Social Media Outreach to Parents	\$2,000	5850	CSI-ESSA	3.3

This allowed us to purchase Hybrid/Distance Learning Camera Technology as follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Object Code</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Hybrid/Distance Learning Camera Technology	\$66,036	4400	CSI-ESSA	1.7

In total, \$84,000.00 was moved, \$82,000 to allow El Puente to move forward and accommodate Hybrid learning.

These items were initially the main focus in order to allocate the \$159,000 of disappearing funds. Additional monies are available and need to be allocated at a future date.

Tammie Wood made a motion to approve the funding requests as presented in our meeting today and summarized by Principal Jonathan Green in the 8/19/2021 document. Paul Cooper seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

8.0 New Business

8.1 Budget Changes

Principal Green presented additional budget changes.

This month's adjustments are to refine the changes made last month and to get some additional equipment. We have decreased object code 5800 by \$5,000.00 & object code 5850 by \$9,200.00. We have increased object code 4300 by \$2,200 and increased object code 4400 by \$12,000.00. All of these adjustments are in the CSI-ESSA Grant.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Object Code</u>	<u>Source</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Software (PIQNIC)	\$11,232	5800	CSI-ESSA	1.7
Sprout Social	\$3,264.39	5800	CSI-ESSA	1.7
New Computers for Teachers	\$6,179.48	4300	CSI-ESSA	1.7
New Computers for Teachers	\$10,585.01	4400	CSI-ESSA	1.7

The only other change request is moving \$2000 from LCFF - Supplemental and Concentration object code 5800 to object code 1100 to cover paying the HiSET proctors.

PIQNIC is a task manager and document management system that is currently being used to track intake master documents, etc. We are currently in a pilot program with the function of tracking documents. They have already begun using PIQNIC as a task manager. After all the kinks are worked out, use of the system will be expanded upon.

Tammie Wood made a motion to approve the funding requests as presented in our meeting today and summarized by Principal Jonathan Green in the 9/9/2021 document. Rod Atchley seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

8.0 Announcements

The IEP process needs to be revised. When students are transferred to El Puente, they are being sent over with a boilerplate IEP and many of them do not mention alternative education so

the goals no longer apply. We should be looking at all options available to IEP students. There is a large population of students in the district that are not attending school. With every IEP transfer to El Puente, there should be an addendum meeting and an alternative education representative must be present at those meetings.

It was noted that Principal Jonathan Green is a wizard with electronics and has been able to get a lot done in the short period of time he has been at El Puente. He is to be commended.

Our next School Site Council meeting will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2021 @ 2:15-3:15 PM.

9.0 Adjournment

David Gross made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Paul Cooper seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned by William Wagener at 3:07 PM.