

Goleta Union School District
DAC Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2016
Ellwood School
7686 Hollister Avenue

Attendance: DAC

William Banning (DO- Supt.)

Carin Ezal (Board member)

Peggy Reagan (Foothill)

Beth Kanne-Casselman (Goleta Family School)

Susan Zink (UTP-G)

Miroslava Chavez-Garcia (Ellwood)

Melissa Renda (Mountain View)

Pam Espinosa (Supt. Asst.)

Dr. Bridget Braney (DO- Asst. Supt.)

Abby Vasquez (Ellwood)

Toni Gentry (La Patera)

Amy Marston (Brandon)

Kara Rocque (Kellogg)

Ana Huynh (Community Rep.)

Laura Zizumbo (Isla Vista)

1. Welcome and Introductions

Superintendent Banning began the meeting at 9:22 am. DAC members introduced themselves and discussed the representative commitment and schedule. We are still missing a rep. from El Camino and Brandon is looking for someone to replace Amy Marston who will stay on until the position is filled.

2. Election of a Chairperson was rescheduled for the next meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes of May 19, 2016

Motion to approve minutes as revised: Melissa Renda

Seconded by: Beth Kanne-Casselman

Minutes approved.

4. School Report by Abby Vasquez – Principal Ellwood School

Mrs. Vasquez has been principal at Ellwood School for six years and was previously at Santa Barbara School District. The school has a current enrollment of 433 students with an average of 2-3 classrooms per grade level and 2 combination classes this year.

Ellwood houses a state preschool on site for a 3-hour day servicing 22 students and also houses the district's Center for Therapeutic Education class (CTE), with special education social emotional curriculum, which currently services 9 students with 2 pending. This program also services children from other districts (at the other district's cost) if necessary.

All Ellwood non-relocatable classrooms are used as classrooms. Enrollment has increased slightly with the recent new housing development. (4-5 students from the Hideaway, 4 from Hollister Village and 2-3 from The Bluffs). Relocatable rooms house special education programs and the computer lab.

Demographics are the perfect snapshot of Goleta Union School District. There are many languages spoken at the school (13+) partly because of UCSB professors. Ellwood is a Title 1 School with over 55% socioeconomically disadvantaged.

Ellwood's focus is primarily Common Core standards, building depth of conceptual understanding, collaboration with peers, and academic language. They have a computer lab, iPads in the classrooms (sets of 8 per class, K-2), one 4th grade class has 1:1 iPads and all 3rd-6th grades have 1:1 Chrome books. All classrooms have an Apple TV. Mrs. Vasquez stated that it's not about the technology but about the instruction.

She then led us on a tour of the school and garden area, which has a new project for an outdoor classroom beginning soon.

5. District Update/Advisory and Planning:

Dr. Bridget Braney, Assistant Superintendent of Instructional Services, reviewed the various professional developments before the school year started.

She reported that we are in year 2 of the Math Adoption. We've adopted STAR 360, which is a benchmark test for K – 6. It will give us a baseline 4 times per year. A letter with assessment results for parents will be distributed at conference time. The district is also using Dibbles for literacy assessment.

Mr. Banning announced that the United Way campaign would raise \$200,000 to provide a 3-year licensing agreement for each student to have the LEXIA program. We've also adopted the SeeSaw software for digital portfolios and some teachers are already implementing it. He also shared that Next Generation Science Standards have been adopted by the state, and the District will participate in the Channel Islands Regional Science Initiative, supported by a team from UC Berkeley's Lawrence Hall of Science to support planning by a district Science Leadership teams.

Technology district-wide is now 1:1 Chrome books for all 3rd through 6th graders.

Mr. Banning shared new personnel changes. He explained that the district-wide enrollment is down by 88 students but we have the same number of teachers and are determined to keep class sizes low and to reduce combination classes. Class sizes average 20 for TK – 3rd grades and 22 for 4th – 6th grades.

Mr. Banning discussed the concerns from DAC members of expensive living in the Santa Barbara area and why some families are leaving for homeschooling/private schooling. The committee reviewed the Parent Square changes, the new format and access. They also expressed interest in district or school Parent Nights for technology and math.

Mr. Banning announced that the LCAP and Strategic Plan were both approved by the Board and the County.

6. Return of the Goleta Education Race (Lemon Run)

The Lemon Run will take place on Sunday, September 18 with a 1K/5K/10K. GEF is raising money for Core Reading Support after school.

7. Next Meeting at District Office Board room – Thursday, October 6, 2016 @ 9:15 am Brandon School Hosting

Meeting adjourned at 11:37 am