

University High School Council

Minutes 2019-2020

Meeting Date: 8/13/2019

Meeting Location: RUHS Library

Members present	Administration	Faculty	Students	Parents
	Amy Cislak	Beth Braun	Julian Barraza	Barney Holtzman
	Andrea Evans	Kimberly King	Iselle Barrios	Marisa Menchola
		Jeff Marchant	Brian Belakovsky	Karen Peters
		Anne Mitchell	Rachel Dai	Chris Read
		Mike Schmidt	Hannah Dyer	Lea Standridge
		Leiba Schuneman	Reia Li	Kara Vathauer
	Community Members	Hannah Sinclair	Andy Pendleton	George Youngerman
	Kris Tully	Matt Ulrich	Daniella Quihuis-Granillo	
Members absent	Community Members	Faculty	Students	Parents
	Kevin Gebert			Tim Sonier
	Administration			
	Joel Bacalia			

- I. Introduction of new 2019-2020 School Council Members
 - a. Ms. Cannon left UHS for an Assistant Principal job out of state and Kimberly King, new science teacher, has filled that vacancy.
 - b. Parent Barbara Hughes left the Site Council, Chris Read has filled that vacancy.
- II. Approval of the Agenda
 - a. Motion to approve.
 - i. Motion by Standridge.
 - ii. Second by Peters.
 - b. Minutes approved by unanimous consent.
- III. Approval of the May 14th, 2019 Minutes
 - a. Motion to approve.
 - i. Motion by Schuneman.
 - ii. Second by Holtzman.
 - b. No items for discussion.
 - c. Minutes approved by unanimous consent.
- IV. Call to the Audience
 - a. No audience members present.

- V. Information and Updates on Pending Business
 - i. Chair Schmidt circulated TUSD-required form for Site Council members to provide contact information and ethnicity (form SC1000.)
 - ii. Draft of agendas will be distributed a week prior to the meeting, and the final agenda the Friday before the meeting.
 - iii. Roll calls votes will be done alphabetically, to avoid having Administration vote first.

- VI. Discussion & Action Items
 - a. Discussion Item: Constituent Communication Transparency Plan
 - i. Chair Schmidt encouraged different stakeholder groups to communicate to constituents what the Site Council is working on and give them the opportunity to bring issues to the Council's attention.
 - 1. Iselle Barrios asked about the possibility to create email account for each stakeholder group that constituents can use to communicate with their representatives. Per Principal Cislak, this can be set up. A representative for each group will manage the group's inbox.
 - 2. Lea Standridge suggested introducing grade level student council members at parent meetings.
 - b. Discussion Item: Volunteer Sign-ups for Subcommittees
 - i. Chair Schmidt circulated form for voluntary sign-up for the following standing committees: Tax Credit and Budget (chaired by Treasurer Youngerman), Personnel Committee (chaired by Site Council Chair Schmidt), Policy Revision (chaired by Assistant Principal Bacalia), and Curriculum, Student Placement and Review.
 - ii. The Agenda Committee, chaired by Site Council Chair Schmidt, has been opened to other Site Council members by circulating draft agenda via email.
 - iii. Other committees created by policy, including Community Relations and Staff Development, have not been active.
 - iv. Chair Schmidt clarified that the recently formed Student Health and Wellness Committee is not a Site Council committee and was created by the Principal's office.
 - c. Discussion Item: BOOST report from Mr. Ulrich
 - i. 346 students attended at least 1 day, and 268 attended at least 8 days.
 - ii. Students from 82 different middle schools attended. The top 5 middle schools were Vail (36), Gridley (26), Doolen (24), Dodge (20), and Basis (18).
 - d. Discussion Item: Promotion of morale building activities at UHS
 - i. Mr. Youngerman introduced a proposal to have Student Council coordinate weekly morale-building activities during the lunch hour to help students integrate better.
 - ii. Discussion included possible activities, opportunities for partnering (e.g., with clubs and Penguin to Penguin to sponsor activities), frequency (weekly vs. monthly), and limitations including students' need for unstructured relaxation time.

- iii. Chair Schmidt and Principal Cislak clarified that Site Council can provide this recommendation to Student Council but cannot dictate that they take on this project.

VII. Committee & Misc. Reports

a. Principal's Report – Cislak

- i. As of August 13, there were 1189 students, including 389 freshmen and 20 new sophomores.
- ii. The Penguin to Penguin program has switched from individual matches to “waddles,” groups of 2 or 3 upperclassmen matched to a freshman student, and have been effective.
- iii. We have 7 new teachers, including 4 new science teachers (King, Nieves, Wexler, and Swanson), one new French teacher (name), one new English teacher (Ross), and one new math teacher (Bautista).
- iv. We started a new Student Health and Wellness Committee, which has been addressing issues related to mental health, technology, domestic violence, sexual assault, and substance use. The committee is so far comprised mostly of parents, and we need student participation.
- v. Due to a change in the Remind fee structure, our Remind accounts had to be re-created in order to keep them free of charge. Students and parents have to re-register.
- vi. Given the success of the teacher book clubs, an Administrator Book Club is being introduced. An invite went out on Remind, and students can sign up in the school office.
- vii. Open House was very well attended.
- viii. Parents' nights start on August 13th with the Freshman Parent Meeting.
- ix. UHSPA and the Alumni Association supported summer internship and shadow opportunities. Summer programs included the U of A Honors College, St. Joseph and St. Mary's Hospitals, El Rio, IBM, and Caterpillar.
- x. The AP teacher bonuses that were supposed to be paid by the state in July have not been paid out yet. Per the plan approved by the Site Council in May, until the school can give payouts to AP teachers, other teachers cannot be paid either.
- xi. In response to questions, Principal Cislak addressed the increase in class size and the school's limited ability to address this problem given budget constraints and class structure.

b. Tax Credit & Budget Committee Report – Youngerman

- i. The Finance office has two new employees. An updated funds report was not available.
- ii. We had ended the year at \$30,700; \$14,000 went to stipends, so the estimated balance is \$16,000. We don't currently have any requests for funds.
- iii. Mr. Youngerman asked if we could have a staff representative on the Budget Committee. Per Principal Cislak, we can ask for a volunteer. Chair Schmidt reminder the group that we currently do not have a staff representative on the Site Council.

c. Recruitment and Retention Committee Report– Evans

- i. We have 389 freshmen.
 - ii. The committee will be collaborating with Student Council on activities for Spirit Week.
 - iii. The committee is preparing for recruitment season. Step-Up day is coming up in October, the theme will be 90's day glow.
 - iv. We have over 500 8th grader qualifiers that have passed the Cog-AT, from within and outside TUSD. We will be visiting those students at their middle schools.
 - d. Instructional Council Report – Schuneman
 - i. There was only one meeting before school started. No updates.
 - e. UHS Foundation & Alumni Association – Tully
 - i. The Foundation met for its annual retreat and reviewed income and expenses. More information will be provided at a later time.
 - f. UHS Parents' Association – Peters
 - i. UHSPA had its first meeting of the year on August 8th, with great attendance including many freshman parents.
 - 1. Lorraine Blackman did an overview of school office staff, and invited parents to have coffee with administration on August 29th at 8:30AM to meet staff and learn about volunteering opportunities.
 - 2. UHSPA voted to approve its budget.
 - 3. Chris Reed was elected to serve on the Site Council.
 - ii. The Association needs a President-Elect and Parliamentarian. Kyra Holtzman is acting as interim president.
 - iii. UHSPA's next meeting is on September 12th.
 - g. Student Council Report – Barraza
 - i. The focus has been on coordinating Homecoming with Rincon Student Council.
 - ii. UHS and Rincon Student Councils are also coordinating shared Spirit Days.
- VIII. Request for Agenda Items for next meeting (please submit action & discussion items in electronic format)
- IX. Adjournment at 4:51 p.m.
 - a. Motion to adjourn.
 - i. Motion by Barraza
 - ii. Second by Standridge
 - b. Passes by Unanimous consent.

Next meeting: Tuesday, Sep. 10th, 2018 at 3:30 p.m. in the RUHS Library