San Leandro Unified School District Minutes

Special Board Meeting - Celebrate Schools
January 21, 2020 6:00 PM
San Leandro High Arts Education Center

2250 Bancroft Avenue

San Leandro, CA 94577

Open Session - 6:00 pm

Attendance Taken at 6:00 PM:

Present:
James Aguilar
Student Board Member
Dr. Kevin Collins
Evelyn Gonzalez
Dr. Mike McLaughlin
Peter Oshinski
Sonal Patel
Diana Prola
Christian Rodriguez
Leo Sheridan
Monique Tate
Zarina Zanipatin

A. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M.

Minutes:
Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm.

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Minutes:
President Oshinki led members of the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

C. PRESENTATIONS

C.1. Bancroft Middle School

Minutes:
Valentin del Rio, Principal of Bancroft Middle School, shared the great things going on at Bancroft as outlined in the Strategic Plan.
Several VIP students, also known as peer advocates, from the middle school outlined what is happening at their school site:

Facilities and Safety:
Students colored the old school sign to better compliment the décor.

A wall was removed to provide better access and less congestion throughout hallways.

A new entryway was added, providing convenience for student and parent access to the office; the new entryway prevents random people from accessing the school, ensuring student safety.

Community events include Family Science Night and Dia De Los Muertos

Peer advocates stated that early release days are helpful for teachers since it provides them extra time to plan student projects.

Students discussed a Project Based Learning (PBL) collaboration that involved math, social studies and English in the SPED SSC program. The PBL enabled students to improve their math skills, research skills and enabled them to engage their community outside of the school setting. . Several students from the SSC classes shared their PBL experiences and how it benefited them.

Peer advocates discussed equity and inclusion, college and career taking place at BMS.

Students visited the Exploratorium. The experiments and exhibits expanded their minds to new possibilities.

The Black Student Union provided an opportunity for students to learn more about African American culture and how it has affected history.

Girls Festival was inspired by the women who started their own companies. Students were amazed and inspired to see the impact girls are making and it encourages students to pursue their dreams as a woman/person to make the world better.

The Peer Advocate program was outlined as a new program which consists of students working diligently daily to make their school a better place and that students don't feel alone. Through mediations and individual check ins students ensure fun and ensure student safety. Students expressed that it enhances their leadership skills.

Mr. Del Rio honored volunteers Andrea Guskin, Jacquelyn Corodimas and Jennifer Chaves with personalized plaques.

C.2. Jefferson Elementary School

Minutes:
Judith Alcala, Principal of Jefferson Elementary presented on the schools' Strategic Plan implementation as follows:

Teach, Learn and Achieve
Two teachers and several students demonstrated a human wax museum: students prepared speeches and dressed up in period costume. Three performers displayed their PBL:

Kaiden Patterson - 1st grader - dressed as Roberto Clemente

Matthew Hernandez-Monroy -2nd grader- dressed as Cesar Chavez

Cyrus Ing - 2nd grader - dressed as Ghandi

Each student presented a brief speech as their character.

Students prepared Basket giveaways to give to local agencies that serve those in need and participated in the Cookies and Cocoas Poetry Slam. Student Kaiden Patterson recited a poem he performed at that event.

College and Career Readiness:
Students are represented via student leadership throughout the school. Student Leadership provides an opportunity to become college ready. The process included completing an application, teacher recommendations and interviews before being chosen to become a student leader. Some of their responsibilities include assisting students during rainy day recess, organizing kindness activities and being conflict managers for younger students. They've effectively used Soul Shoppe and Tool Box activities to aid in creating a positive and inclusive learning environment.

Goal 3 – Collaborative and Engaged District Culture:
Staff utilizes Wellness Wednesday to provide a healthy balance of work, play and self-care. Activities they've tried include yoga, body scans, dancing and meditation, journaling and vision boards.

Goal 4 –Family and Community Engagement:
Activities have included field trips, obstacle-a-thon and celebrations in the classrooms and the entire school. One teacher, Ms. Reena, described her Parents as Partners, who aid her in the classroom; some of the activities they assist with is the math, literacy centers and cooking class.

Goal 5 - Facilities & Technology
Beautification Day
Construction is taking place to add additional classrooms and enhanced picnic area.

A classroom project turned into a PBL project. Students took a field trip to the Davis Street Transfer Station. Students researched how can using the 4Rs (reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery) at Jefferson help the environment?

Ms. Alcala honored volunteers Michelle Branco, Kelly Fiero and America Monroy with personalized plaques.

C.3. McKinley Elementary School

Minutes:
Grozelia Ward, Principal of McKinley Elementary School, highlighted project based learning projects, which focused on the social justice standards.

Several students in attendance recited the driving questions provided for each grade.

Goal 1: Teach, Learn, Achieve
Three projects were highlighted

Kindergarten project
Driving question: How can we, as ambassador of kindness, be friendly to people who are the same and different than us?

Photos were displayed of students with positive self -dentity statements, such as "I am strong; I am special; I am smart".

Kindness chains were created to show how students were "caught" being kind on the campus.

Third grade project
Students learned how to ask respectful questions and how to be curious but in a respectful way. Student explored what makes them curious about others. Teachers shared a variety of read-alouds pertaining to feelings of discomfort and curiosity.

A guest speaker with a speech impediment enabled students to ask questions in a safe environment. What made this so powerful was that he is the speech pathologist at the school. He shared about the work he does daily, but it's a challenge for him.

Self Portrait project:

Goal 2 - College and Career Readiness

David Patusco, an art teacher, assisted the students in making self-portraits. Going to college is developing a positive self-image and a level

of personal development that leads to success in college or the workplace. The self-portrait project was designed to help students develop and reinforce a positive self-image. Students viewed self-portraits from a variety of artists and backgrounds. Students were also asked to place three personal symbols on the self-portrait that represents them. Mr. Patusco aided the students in creating their paintings. The lesson was a success and helped students to celebrate their identity and diversity.

Goal 3 - Collaborative and Engaged District Culture

PBL - need for collaboration - teachers obtained feedback from one another in different grade levels - called PBL families. During a monthly meeting, teachers shared where they are on their project and obtained feedback and ideas. It has enabled their confidence in collaboration to grow and provided constant reflection.

Goal 4 - Family and Community Engagement

Staff is encouraging critical thinkers at McKinley. Families reviewed the graduate profile in a parent meeting and discussed how that would look at the elementary school level. Parents walked the campus and toured classrooms to obtain ideas. Interventionists completed a parent-ed workshop on critical thinkers. Families went home with a book and ring of questions and then practiced with one another.

Goal 5 - Facilities and Technology
Audience and board members viewed a before and after slide that displayed where students transformed a space into a lovely garden.

The site is currently undergoing construction. A modular building will be added with 12 classrooms and additional restrooms.

PBL connection: a third grade teacher is taking her students to Wilson Elementary where students will present what they learned while basing their PBL on the construction going on at that school site.

Mrs. Ward honored volunteers Anne Bradshaw, Tong Du and Karla Rodriguez with personalized plaques.

C.4. Roosevelt Elementary School

Minutes:
David Kumamoto, Principal of Roosevelt Elementary School, shared their PBL projects taking place at their site. Their theme the year has been growth and sustainability.

Roosevelt staff and students have visited other schools regarding PBL.

Goal 1 - Teach, Learn, Achieve
The daily 5 –a term which provides teachers structure to work with kids in a small groups. Second and third grade student attend reading and learning academies.

Driving question: how can we as botanists teach others about the importance of trees? A presentation slide displayed a group of first grade students relaying the importance of trees: you can play games, they provide food, you can rest, block the sun; trees make shade for animals.

Goal 2 - Equity and Inclusion Through College and Career Readiness
Theme this year: "I'm a hornet - what's your superpower?" Captain Kindness visits their school assemblies and announces winner of green tickets. Students revisit the breathing and listening tools during the assembly. The assemblies enable the staff to utilize Toolbox tools and the students practice them in a large assembly. Roosevelt's PBIS team is working weekly to develop a new theme for the assemblies.

Goal 3-Collaborate and Engaged District Culture
The staff provided orientation to teachers to discuss various family groups, programs and clubs.

Goal 4 - Family and Community Involvement
There are several community events throughout the year.

Celine Liu, the district's Math Coordinator, came to Roosevelt to speak to parents at math night about Eureka math - 100 parents participated. Families broke out into groups and sat down with teachers and played interactive games.

Goal 5 - Facilities and Technology
Presentation slides displayed temporary portables utilized to accommodate students and staff while construction was taking place. Staff and parents are excited for the new changes which will provide new modular buildings.

Mr. Kumamoto honored volunteers Antonieta Pantonial and Kimberly McKissack.

C.5. Washington Elementary School

Minutes:
Eliza Alvarez, Principal of Washington Elementary School, outlined the PBL experiences at their school site:

Student council members introduced themselves to the Board and audience members. The students explained the process of becoming part of student council. The school held an election. Students learned the importance of their voices being heard as a voter and a candidate. The council displayed a presentation slide of their voter ballot via Chromebooks and a pie graph displayed candidate votes. They used a google form to obtain immediate results.

The school participates in PBL to better understand how things work in real life.

Students from a bilingual class explained how their project inspired the entire school. They discussed climate change. A video was displayed showing students with colorful posters they made and chanting "save our planet".

Students want to learn more about our social justice standards of action.

Students from the dual immersion classes provided a summary and display of projects pertaining to activists across our country in history.

The PBL project was called Change Makers. They studied social leaders from each of the five regions of the United States in different time periods. Students learned how those social leaders faced problems and took action with social moments to make changes in their communities. Students did research, drew maps, wrote summaries and painted portraits of activists.

Ms. Alvarez honored volunteers of the year Karen Torres and Amparo Gutierrez.

The presentation ended with a drumming performance by students from Ms. Tealdi's 5th grade class and directed by Mr. Hargreaves.

D. ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Minutes:
All board members provided positive feedback for all the school sites and their

presentations.

E. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:
Meeting adjourned at 7:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Clerk/Secretary of the Board of Education

Board Approved: