

# DRAFT

## Farallone View School Site Council [Unapproved] Minutes for May 16, 2001

**In Attendance:** Mike Bachicha, Donna McCurdy, Pete Zell, Mary Balciunas, Maria Murphy, Stacey Fitting. Guests: Vicki Laffen (president of Ed Fund), Tom Ferenz.

**Meeting called to order at 6:10** by Pete Zell, vice-president. Quorum present.

**Minutes of March 2001** were approved with minor corrections.

**Principal's Report:** M. Bachicha.

Principal Bachicha reported that Oceans Week was in progress and noted that the organization, publicity and level of presentation and projects is absolutely first class, thanks to organizer Leslie Higgins and all the volunteers.

The last few make-up tests for the SAT-9 achievement tests are finishing up this week.

Farallone View has received the API bonus money, based on our SAT-9 tests of 2000. All teachers and full-time employees received a bonus of \$591.32 in their paycheck recently, as the first part of the money. We will also receive \$22,429, which is \$52 per student (down from the original \$150 per student).

Our district will qualify for Title I funding next year, but we don't know if Farallone View will be one of the sites to receive the funds. There are 44 kindergarten (for next year) students fully registered, with a total of 69 signed up. [Hatch has about 100, and El Granada about 80.]

Principal Bachicha described some of the staff changes for next year. Third grade teacher Sarah Smith will be on sabbatical, and 4th/5th grade teacher Shannon Cahill will be leaving to have a baby. 4th grade teacher Linda Carroll may be teaching a "Newcomers Class" next year, for students who have been in the district for less than a year, who are English Language Learners assessed at a level 1 or less.

Farallone View has had great success with the number of students that transition from Limited English Proficiency (LEP) to language fluency. If a "Newcomers Class" is set up here, Farallone View may qualify for more funding (from Title VII, ESL and other sources). Transportation issues still need to be resolved, as many of the students may come from outside our immediate busing route. Principal Bachicha noted that this program might result in an initial dip in our overall SAT-9 score, as much as 10 - 15 points.

However, this intensive one year English immersion program, in addition to substantive after-school tutoring and transportation, would address the needs of a number of students in our district who otherwise might not find school success.

Principal Bachicha stressed that the MFG program will remain in place at Farallone View, whether or not Ms. Carroll is involved.

**Technology Committee:** Tom Ferenz

Tom Ferenz, the computer teacher, described the pressing needs for printers. Although it has been an extraordinary year for donations, the demand has vastly overshadowed the supply of working printers and printer equipment.

Pete Zell proposed that this go on the agenda for next month, and that more specific information about costs be available to make a decision.

**GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) :** M. Bachicha

The SOI testing is complete, but the results have not been sent back yet.

Parent Rachael Gershenson has expressed interest in chairing the committee for next year.

**PTA :** S. Fitting

At the April PTA meeting, parents enjoyed a presentation by Amanda Hahn, who has been teaching music to the K - 3 grades this year. The PTA presented awards to the student writers for the essay contest. Stacey Fitting proposed a committee to work on a master plan for the playgrounds, which have lost a great deal of equipment due to safety issues in the last 5 years. Principal Bachicha noted

that there is \$3,273 in the Tory Hansen Memorial Fund, which was set up in honor of a kindergarten teacher and targeted for playground improvements. However, there may be some costs associated with ADA compliance (Americans with Disabilities Act).

**Ed Fund:** V. Laffen

The Ed Fund has created 2 new board positions, which brings their total up to 12 elected positions, in addition to a representative from PTA and Site Council, and the principal.

The Ed Fund has approximately \$30,000 over their commitments to the district (for salaries of classroom aides, librarian and tech teacher). They will be surveying teachers to better identify the need for aides at the beginning and end of the school year. The aides have made a huge impact on students, especially those struggling.

**SDAC (Superintendents/District Advisory Council):** S. Fitting

The SDAC meeting was canceled due to lack of quorum. The next meeting will be Thursday, May 31 at 7 pm at the District Office in HMB.

**Nominating Committee:** S. Fitting

There are 2 candidates for election: Pete Zell and John DiNapoli. Election will be at Open House on May 23. Results will be announced in the next newsletter and the next Site meeting.

**Math Action Plan:** M. Bachicha

Principal Bachicha presented the Math Action Plan which is the summary of strategies to meet the state standards in math for all grades. The goal will be that "all students in grades K-5" will meet or exceed grade level standards in mathematics." The specific objective will be that "by Spring 2002, all grades will increase their scores on the SAT 9, Noyce Math Assessment, and other district assessments, by a range of 3 to 5 percentile points."

Mr. Bachicha presented these strategies in detail and noted that "the current 2000 data indicates that the following percentages of students grades 2-5 have met or exceeded the 50th percentile on the SAT 9: 2nd = 81%, 3rd = 63%, 4th = 69%, and 5th = 74%." This means that 81% of (last year's) second graders were tested to be at grade level or above. The test scores in all grades have greatly increased in the four years of testing.

Next year will be a pilot year for math at Farallone View, when teachers will pilot new state-approved math materials and make recommendations for adoption.

Next year Farallone View will also be piloting a new standards-based report card, which will provide parents with more specific information about student's skills and achievement, based on assessment. There will be 3 report cards per year, the first one after the fall parent-conferences.

**Review of Allocation Priorities for 2001-2002:** M. Bachicha

The council reviewed the proposed Site Council budget, based on current information, as outlined below.

School Improvement Program (SIP) = estimated \$31,604

Certificated Salaries 4,308.69 salary for computer teacher  
Certificated Benefits 1,704.15  
Substitute Teachers 1,800.00 to cover teacher training  
Substitute Benefits 198.00  
Classified Salaries 11,165.70 salary for repro clerk  
Classified Benefits 5,922.00  
Supplies 1,496.66  
Conference Registration fees 1,500.00  
Second Language Learners Services 1,000.00 - translation services  
PE specialist Services 2,008.80 - for lower grades  
Equipment Replacement 500.00

\$31,604.00

GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) funding restricted to use for GATE Personal Services - non-classroom 2,339.00 after-school programs

Dues/memberships 75.00

2,404.00

Library 9,914.00 restricted to use for library

K-4 Library 3,163.00 restricted to use for K-4

API award of \$22,429

Certificated Salaries 3,500.00 stipends to meet Noyce  
Certificated benefits 1,200.00 Foundation literacy grant  
Books other than Textbooks 6,000.00  
Supplies 6,000.00  
Program Reserve 729.00  
Equipment Replacement 5,000.00 for technology

22,429.00

The budget, as a work in progress, was approved by majority vote. The allocation priorities for 2001-2002 will continue to be discussed at the June meeting, when more information about additional funding may be available.

**Bilingual Committee:** M. Bachicha

All 48 of the Farallone View second-language learners will be assessed next week by trained teachers. Principal Bachicha reported that we will have new access to the Spanish-speaking parent community with involved bilingual parents such as Violetta Torres.

**Items for Next Meeting** on Wednesday, June 13, 2001:

Results of Election, Science and Arts Action Plan, Review of Allocation Priorities for 2001-02, Allocations for Technology.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:55.** Submitted by Stacey Fitting, Secretary