

# GRAHAM MIDDLE SCHOOL

## Graham Site Council Minutes

January 26, 2018

### In Attendance:

Parent Members: Hafsa Mirza, Uma Srinivasan, Anita Chang, Laurie Balch, Eric Anderson

Staff Members: Arundhati Bose, Amber Myerholtz, Kim Thompson, Merlene Saunders, Erin McElyea, Heidi Gaalassi, Vern Taylor

Guest: Randi Ross

### Meeting Minutes:

1. Uma Srinivasan welcomed the group.

2. Updates:

- Uma Srinivasan requested that someone volunteer to join the Parcel Tax Oversight committee. This requires an application, and the process is open now. Meetings are monthly/bimonthly. Parcel tax allocation is decided at the District level. Areas to support have been selected, but relative amounts have not been decided.
- Principal Thompson reported that College and Career Day will be held on Saturday, Feb. 10, from 9-1. The Keynote Speaker will be Jose Vargas. There will be representatives from the DA's Office, Fire Chief, Police Dept., Google, construction industry, and small businesses. Students may attend two sessions + keynote + lunch.
- Principal Thompson also reported that the "State of the District" presentation will be at Crittenden on Feb. 8. The Graham and Crittenden Choirs will perform at this event.
- Laurie Balch made a proposal that we consider having a Science Fair at Graham, ideally with the goal of students entering their projects in the Santa Clara County Science Fair. It should be of low financial impact to the school. There was a discussion about equity, access to resources, possibility of using teams of students and adult/parent mentors. Destination Imagination is used at the Elementary School level; Synopsis is for grades 6-12. Would participation be required or optional, graded or not graded? More discussion is needed.

3. State Dashboard presentation ([www.caschooldashboard.org](http://www.caschooldashboard.org))

- Principal Thompson reported on the highlights of Graham's results. Overall, Graham is in blue/green in major categories, however some sub-groups are not performing well. Co-teaching should help with this next year: "flip-flop switch," exit ticket—> reteach, preteach. GenEd teacher is content specialist; special ed teacher is strategy specialist.

4. Safety Plan 2017-18

- Principal Thompson presented highlights.

- o New guidance counselor role. Guidance counselor will be sent into class to minimize sending disruptive students out of class. A team of guidance counselor, at-risk coordinator, and administration rep will meet with, encourage, and guide group of at-risk kids.
- o Disaster Drills to be held annually. Run, Hide, Defend is current strategy.
- o Fire Drills are monthly. Everyone, including students, participates.
- o Earthquake Drills are annual.
- o Incident Command System Field Organization Chart: its a chart with details on who does what (duties and responsibilities) during a disaster/emergency.

5. Update on Master Schedule was presented by Principal Thompson.

- Every student will have 8 periods/classes.
  - o Monday: late start. 32 min. periods. Students will see all their teachers, set the tone for the week.
  - o Tues.-Fri.: 6 periods, 58 min.
  - o Fate of double math has not been decided. It would be hard to cover subject matter for 6.2, 7.2, 8.2 without the double period. Ms. Thompson will meet with District leaders to discuss. Intervention course for students who are struggling in math.
  - o Electives: depend on enrollment and teacher hiring. Parents want Home Arts (Ec), but it's very hard as there are not enough credentialed teachers. Effort to offer subjects that will be carried on in the high school. Staffing is an issue.

6. Next Meeting: Feb. 12, 7 pm. With LCAP, PTA, ELAC.

Respectfully submitted by Anita Backus Chang