

**César Chávez Climate Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2013**

I. Introductions

Present: Denise Beck, Anastasia Panagakos , Amy Duffy, Andi Carr, Gayle Kyhos, Rosa Ramirez, Raychel Adler, Jennifer Farwell, Laurie Stillman, Shari Hughes, Janet Brown, Mark Damesyn, Adrienne Meredith, Sylvia Kwon, Kate Snow

II. Climate Survey Data Sharing

Anastasia shared results from the student climate survey administered back in February. The full results will be available on the website shortly. Some findings included:

- a. Overall students in grades 3-6 feel connected to Chavez, have several friends, feel safe, and think there is an adult at school who cares for them and will help them with their schoolwork.
- b. Bullying
 1. Verbal bullying is most prevalent followed by exclusion and spreading rumors.
 2. Students use many techniques to deal with bullying although the most prevalent is to tell the bully to stop or walk away.
 3. 6th graders were the least likely to be bullied with over 80% saying they had not been bullied in the last month.
 4. Boys tended to bully slightly more than girls. Girls were equally likely to be bullied by either 1 girl or 1 boy but more likely to be bullied by a group of girls than a group of boys.
 5. Boys were more likely to be physically bullied and more likely to be bullied by other boys.
 6. If a student witnessed bullying they were likely to stand up to the bully and help the kid being bullied, although the third most popular choice was to do nothing.
 7. There was no perceived significant difference in bullying or the response to bullying when self-reported race or ethnicity was accounted for.
- c. Acceptance
 1. Overall 64% of students felt accepted, but if not the top three reasons were How I Look, Clothing, Being a Boy or Girl.
 2. There was no significant difference in how boys or girls responded to being accepted.
 3. There was no significant difference in how Latinos or all minorities together responded.
 4. African American students (a small sample size) noted that 1 in 3 felt not accepted for how they looked
 5. There was no significant difference in terms of gender, race, or ethnicity in whether students felt they were treated differently because they were a boy who liked girl things or vice versa.
- d. Other findings
 1. 98% of 6th graders say they are going to college
 2. Most students have good support at home for schoolwork and encouragement
 3. 1 out of 6 students doesn't know if there is a teacher or adult at school they could talk to about bullying
 4. Most students know students of another culture and 1 out of 3 say they have friends from another culture

III. Climate Updates and Reports

a. Students transferring from MME

Sra. Beck reported that a larger number of students will be coming to Chavez in the fall from MME and will be coming from many different grade levels (instead of just the traditional fourth grade transition). On May 30 she would lead a school tour for the parents and incoming students and the students would get to meet their new peers. Sra. Beck will also have a meeting for the parents as well. The climate committee will help coordinate buddy families by creating a list of Chavez families of the same grade level willing to help the MME families with the transition.

b. First Grade Lunch Transition and Playground Re-design

1. The incoming first grade yard supervision coordinator, Ashley Giovannettone, has been collecting the names of parents able to volunteer next year for yard supervision.
2. Mark Damesyn reported that he has contacted the landscape architecture program at UC Davis and will be working through the summer to help come up with a plan for a new play space under the shade trees (by the 1st grade play structure). He will work with Sra. Beck on this issue.

c. Counselor Update

1. SIPAT has voted to increase the number of hours for the school counselor from 10 to 15 for next year. Sra. Allgood will be available for thirteen hours and it is very likely she will be returning to Chavez in August.
2. Sra. Allgood also made a request for resource books for her lessons with the students. Sra. Beck has agreed to buy the books and requires a prioritized list from her. The books will then be purchased and will be school property and kept in the library.

IV. Planning for 2013-14

a. Playworks

Raychel will continue the Playworks Peers program next year which has been very successful. She will offer this program to all 5th and 6th grader but to only 4th grade student council. A letter will go to kinder parents about teaching the incoming first graders playworks during PE.

b. Parent Resource Library

The climate committee will continue to work on creating a parent resource library and will solicit for book donations from parents.

c. DJUSD Climate Committee

District climate co-coordinator Kate Snow discussed the plans of the district committee for next year (see notes below)

V. New Discussion Items

An email from a parent was discussed regarding the lessons provided by Sra. Allgood. The parent was concerned that the lessons often minimized the bullying experienced by some children by focusing too much on teasing. The parent noted that this could make bullied students feel that their emotions or feelings are not validated. The committee used this information to segue into the presentation by Kate Snow.

VI. AB 9 "Seth's Law" Presentation by DJUSD Climate Co-coordinator Kate Snow

The committee welcomed Kate Snow who discussed how the school district was approaching the new bullying law, AB 9. Kate discussed how the law is helping to broaden the discussion about climate throughout the district. She outlined the work that was done this year by the AB Cadre Group including discussions of micro aggression and white privilege. The group also looked at the various efforts around the district such as Kelso's Choices, which help create a common language. The idea is to help build individual pro-social behavior but also to have real institutional change. The district is also starting to implement restorative justice for problem solving and bullying, something that has not yet made it down to the elementary schools.

The district would also like to see climate committees separated from site councils (which is already the case at Chavez). Climate Committees will be access points for providing parents information and possibly training about AB 9 and its implementation. The committee discussed professional development for teachers and also if there will be a working (and less legal sounding) definition of bullying. Kate noted there will be professional development training in August for teachers. Kate noted that the district does not yet have a plan on how to train

classified staff to be in compliance with AB 9 - this includes coaches, aides, para educators, nutritional and custodial staff.

Kate noted that Pam Mari would be speaking to the school board on Thursday and would recommend that all elementary schools have counselors paid for by the school district (and not by individual PTAs).

Important Resources for AB 9

Presentation of AB 9 Implementation Plan (School Board Meeting, May 30, 2013)

<http://davis.csbaagendaonline.net/cgi-bin/WebObjects/davis-eAgenda.woa/wo/0.0.7.1.3.0.0.7.2.0.40.4.0.19.3.4.3.1.13.1.1.0.0.3.1>

AB 9 Fact Sheet

<http://www.aclu-sc.org/seths-law-ab9-handout/>

First Meeting of 2013-14 School Year

Tuesday, September 24 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 20

Questions or comments about these meeting minutes should be directed to Anastasia Panagakos (panagaa@crc.losrios.edu) or 530-753-2378