ELAC Meeting Minutes

Session 1: November 20, 2024 Session 2: December 18, 2024

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: School Library

Attendees Session 1:

Parents: Ana Gutierrez, Yesenia Saucedo, Teresa Guzman, Irma Rodriguez Staff: Vice Principal Mrs. Vasche, Counselor Marybel Reyes, Bilingual Aides Lety Ochoa & Yaneth Contreras, Estudiantes Unidos President Melanye Sanchez

Attendees Session 2:

Parents: Yudi Hibbs, Imelda Vega, Claudia L. Angel, Imelda Padilla, Ana Padilla Staff: Vice Principal Mrs. Vasche, Counselor Marybel Reyes, Bilingual Aides Lety Ochoa & Yaneth Contreras, Estudiantes Unidos President Melanye Sanchez

Session 1 & 2 Agenda:

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Counselor Presentation
- 3. Vice Principal Presentation
- 4. Questions, Comments, Concerns

Welcome & Introductions:

The meeting began with a warm welcome to parents and staff.

Presentation by Mrs. Reyes: College Preparation & Graduation Requirements

- **Graduation**: Students need to complete 7 classes per year, earning 5 credits per class (total of 70 credits/year).
- **Grades**: A minimum grade of D is required to pass. Failing grades will require the student to retake the class.
- **Transcript**: Tracks the classes, GPA, and progress toward graduation.
- **College Prep**: Life skills are encouraged alongside academic courses. Counselors meet with students yearly to ensure they are on track for graduation and college eligibility.

Presentation by Vice Principal Mrs. Vasche: Vaping on Campus

- **Vaping Issues**: Vaping is a major concern, with some products disguised as harmless items.
- **Health Risks**: Vaping contains both nicotine and marijuana. 70% of vapes contain nicotine, and 30% contain marijuana.
- **Consequences**: Students caught vaping will face a suspension and a ticket from the Ripon Police.
- EL Students Struggling in Government & Economics: Some EL students are facing challenges with assignments and group work in the Government & Economics class. Parents are encouraged to contact bilingual liaisons for assistance. Aides will review students' grades weekly to provide support.
- Cell Phone Use in Class: Parents raised concerns about phone usage during class, as some students claim they are not allowed to use phones despite school policy. Mrs.
 Vasche explained that there is state legislation being considered to limit phone use, but the implementation is challenging due to phones being used in some classes for educational activities.
- **Mental Health**: Parents suggested adding discussions on mental health to future agendas, which will be included in upcoming meetings.

Session 2: Student Behavior and Discipline

- Parent Question: A parent asked about the actions the school takes for disruptive students in class.
- Vasche's Response: Teachers are required to document disruptions. If students continue disruptive behavior, they may be sent to the office. If behavior does not improve after multiple attempts to resolve the issue, students may be referred to the One School in Manteca.
- Expulsion: A student can be expelled for up to one year, but if they return, they must meet certain conditions, such as completing required credits and showing improved behavior.
- Counseling Services: The school offers counseling for students with behavioral challenges. Mrs. Vasche mentioned spending a significant amount of time with the same group of students who need extra support.

Concerns About Bathroom Behavior

- A parent shared concerns about inappropriate activities occurring in school bathrooms.
- Vasche's Response: He acknowledged this issue and explained that if students are caught engaging in inappropriate behavior in the bathrooms, they face disciplinary actions such as detention. Parents were encouraged to report ongoing concerns to the school administration.

College and Financial Aid Information

- Cash for College Event: The Cash for College event will take place on February 20, 2024, at 5:30 PM in the school library. This event will assist families with completing financial aid forms (FAFSA).
- **Deadline for Financial Aid**: The deadline to submit financial aid applications is **March** 2, 2024.
- **Scholarship Information**: Parents were reminded that students must apply for financial aid every year they attend college. Scholarships are also available for students from lower-income households.
- SAT and AP Exams: AP exams and other college preparatory exams will continue to be
 offered at Ripon High. Mrs. Vasche highlighted that practice tests are also available for
 students.

Closing Remarks

- Parent Appreciation: A parent expressed appreciation for the school, teachers, and staff. They emphasized that the support and involvement of parents are crucial for students' success.
- **Next Meeting**: The next meeting is scheduled for **January 29, 2024**, **at 12:30 PM** in the Ripon High School Library.

Meeting Adjourned

Session 1: 1:30 PMSession 2: 1:46 PM