Introductions and Overview of Agenda

- Martha Castellon
- Kathy Joki
- Kennedy Herron, Sophomore at Paly
- Shannon Yang, Senior at Gunn
- Judy Argumedo
- Barbara Harris
- Zeév Wurman
- Christina Erwin, EPATT
- Lauren Nolen, Senior at Paly
- Maria Powell
- Beti Loomis

Update on December 2 Meeting to the HUR Community in East Palo Alto:

- It was very well attended about 50 parents on the sign-in list, but about 100 people in all on a Friday night.
- This despite the fact that there were other school-sponsored events going on throughout the district. Heartening to see people come out to the meeting when they could have been at other school events instead.
- Two board members attended as well as Judy Argumedo, her husband (teacher Leonel Argumedo), Barbara Harris, representatives from Dream Catchers, EPATT, Parent Liaisons and Foundation for a College Education.
- Two senior leaders from Canada College were present. The President is interested in the Equity Plan and LCAP. Canada College is interested in working with us to recruit students for their Middle College program.
- Re-capped the work that the MATD has done and introduced them to the Equity Plan. The Equity Plan is posted online on our MATD website as is an online form that people can use to provide feedback. Feedback is open to community until Feb 3, 2016. The Equity Plan is in the process of being translated for feedback to non-English speakers in the community.
- The meeting was conducted in English, but we had a Spanish interpreter; We are working on getting the draft translated into Spanish and Mandarin.
- Feedback received from the meeting was constructive; parents were pleased that there was a forum for the discussion.
o Two more meetings will be held—one on Wednesday, January 18 (in English and in Spanish) and one on Friday, January 27 for African American Families.

o Equity plan has been distributed to district administrators and to all principals. Feedback from everyone (including this committee) is due on February 3rd.

o Presentation to the board is moved to January 10, 2017. It was emphasized that the Board members need to hear first-hand from the committee about its progress. The MATD has been bumped a few times from the board agenda but is scheduled to be heard on January 10.

• The following was big takeaway from the East Palo Alto Community meeting.

  o The parents wanted assurance that the committee and the board are committed to the Equity Plan. When a parent in the audience asked “if this (referring to Equity Plan) was real, a Board member stood up and spoke for the board and replied that the “Board was very committed!”
  
  o Many appreciated the Robo call. They all said it was very effective.
  
  o Some parents requested mailers as well to accommodate those who may not have the ability to receive calls.
  
  o A parent suggested that the district offer Ethnic Studies in place of traditional History classes which IS currently part of the Equity Plan.
  
  o There was plea for a guide that could assist parents to better guide them in making educational decisions for their students.
  
  o Full time Parent Liaisons were highly recommended
  
  o Regular community meetings in EPA were highly recommended
  
  o A list of resources, such as Transportation Options for EPA students participating in after-school activities
  
  o Assistance with understanding SBAC scores
  
  o Improving communication
  
  o Some East Palo Alto Parents felt like they don't belong. They want a sense of inclusion

• Update on Talent Development Work

  o The Coalition for the Psychology of High Performance visited the district in mid-November. Individual Experts from various fields of talent development.
  
  o During the visit they:
    ▪ Met with district administrators
    ▪ Visited JLS Middle School where they observed science classes and had focus groups with students, parents, teachers, and
counselors/administrators focusing on how people felt about talent development.

- Drafted a preliminary plan to: work with HUR students over the summer to provide them with a “Bridge to Middle School” to provide an orientation to middle school, an intro to psycho-social skills, and a content-based curriculum. We are having conversations with district administrators and community partners about this in January. We will keep you posted.

**Side Note:** Martha helped to organize Spanish Translator at Board meeting. It was a huge success! Victor Spielberg reported that it had encouraged parents to attend more Board meetings.

- **Review MATD applications submitted by interested students**
  
  - Because the voice of a wider range of student voices is needed, at least four new student members will be voted in to the committee.
  - A Review of the Process for Selection of Youth MATD was conducted
  - Of the twelve (12) student applicants, eight (8) are HUR students and of the eight (8) HUR students, three (3) are VTP students.
  - The committee agreed that it was not important to have equal representation of all groups; that it was more important to select applicants who would demonstrate a strong commitment to the cause.
  - There is no limit in the By-Laws as to the number of students allowed on the committee. The committee discussed having at least four new student members for a total of at least five students on the committee overall. Current members expressed hope of selecting at least one non-HUR student member.
  - The MATD committee as a whole needs to be re-envisioned due to the attendance drop. We will discuss how to do this in the remaining months of this year and have a new committee by the 2017-2018 academic year.
  - A member asked the question “What is the goal of the committee and how it differs from the Equity Team?”
  - Martha briefly explains that the MATD sits above the team and oversees the process in an advisory role. It provides guidance to the team. The communication channel is Martha who then reports to Barbara Harris and Barbara Harris then reports to cabinet.
  - After discussion, the committee carefully reviews handout identifying the criteria for selection process for new student members.
  - Martha instructs the committee to add 2 additional candidates to the list and provides their names
  - Members are asked to take a close look to see if there is a conflict of interest, such as a relative or neighbor.
  - Judy Argumedo removes herself as judge.
o Each member is asked to review every application. Scores by each member were given to Judy Argumedo and Barbara Harris who will tallied up the scores.

• Result Reactions and Suggestions re: process over email selection

o Six students were selected to be on the committee. Six students are:
  1. Oluwadolapo (Titi) Bolarinwa, 12th grade, Paly
  2. Crystal Perez-Gutierrez, 11th grade, Gunn
  3. Lauren Nolen, 12th grade, Paly
  4. Kennedy Herron, 10th grade, Paly
  5. Corinna Martinez Luna, 10th grade, Gunn
  6. Ismael Perez-Gutierrez, 10th grade, Gunn

o Two students were selected to serve as alternates and will begin serving in September of 2017: (1) George Cai, 9th Grade, Gunn, and (2) Katarina Merk, 10th grade, Paly.

o There should be alternate members to replace graduating seniors who are selected. It was agreed to move on and review the applications despite the argument that it would be better to have a good idea what the committee membership will look like as a whole once opened to wider membership.

o One person suggested that preference should be given to seniors so that they gain experience prior to college.

o The argument was made that the committee is the one to benefit, not the students. It was decided that 10th and 11th graders should be given greater consideration. However, the senior presence is important in order to contribute a good perspective on students’ entire high school career.

o Most number of points to 10th and 11th graders and 1 point to 12th.

o The maturity level is a concern if a 9th grader is selected. It was argued that it is more important to judge the content, not the grade level.

o Important to have students who can contribute. The important thing is to have students from different backgrounds. The input from both HUR and Non-HUR perspectives is valuable.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:15