

**October 22, 2024**  
**7:00-8:00pm, [Virtual](#)**

**Attending:** Miles Steenhuis, Vicente Chionchio, Maria Collins, Nina Farouk, Helene Guido, Clara Hendricks, Julia Ho, Kanako Katsumi, Bo Lembo, Tina Lieu, Dinanga Mulumba, Andrea Normoyle, Tracy Orr, Tatiana Pobednova, Abigail Ransmeier, Julei Sizer, Zoe Trohatos, Ena Valenzuela, Olesia Vertiachikh, Michele Fry

**Goals**

- To connect to each other and our mission and purpose as a School Council
- To provide feedback and suggestions for team logistics for the year

Topic	Activity/Notes
Connection & Introductions 7:00-7:15	<p>Please introduce yourself (name, connection to RAUC) and a hope you have for this school year.</p> <p>Hopes / appreciations for this group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Miles - get things done, listen to others</li> <li>● Vicente - get things done, think about what’s happened last year and this year</li> <li>● Bo - group members feel empowered to share openly to make the community stronger</li> <li>● Tina - engage authentically and think about how to make the school a better place for all students</li> <li>● Olesia - unite our voices, hear other voices, and deal with what’s around us, like with problems and find solutions for students and parents</li> <li>● Michele - come together with all the different perspectives that we have and have an impact for all the stakeholders</li> <li>● Abigail - continue to have open conversations; important that all families feel welcome</li> <li>● Clara - to draw newer folks into the school council seamlessly and include those new voices</li> <li>● Zoe - learn from everyone and learn from each other &amp; learn about the RAUC culture</li> <li>● Ena - wants to make sure the new folks that come on are going to be engaged throughout the year and through the 8th grade; focusing on the students</li> <li>● Nina - great to hear different voices and perspectives and come together to create something positive for the school community</li> <li>● Tatiana - appreciates family voices and wants to hear more from parents this year</li> <li>● Dinanga - hoping to get own student’s feedback to the school to make an impact</li> <li>● Julia - putting our hearts and minds together to improve things for our students</li> </ul>
Team Purpose &	Purpose of School Council:

<p>Framing 7:15-7:25</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- School equity team</li> <li>- Council Principal on issues related to the School Improvement Plan (SIP)</li> <li>- Discuss non-SIP issues and concerns affecting RAUC</li> <li>- Discuss district-wide mandates, reforms, policies that may require adjustment to RAUC practice</li> </ul> <p>School council structure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Consists of members of our school community including parents/caregivers, staff members, students, &amp; community members</li> <li>- Parity between staff representation and parent/caregiver representation</li> <li>- Parent/caregiver co-chair</li> </ul>
<p>Overview of SIP &amp; Progress to Goals 7:25-7:35</p>	<p>Slides <a href="#">here</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For later review: <a href="#">Overall SIP</a></li> <li>- Questions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What methods and practices is admin look towards for restorative work / lunch resets &amp; repair block? What kinds of support do we have from the district and from other middle schools? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- JS: A lot of support from district staff members &amp; superintendent around recent disruptions / challenges from this year; superintendent has redesigned principals' meetings to be more collaborative based on feedback from principals</li> <li>- We've had lunch resets before</li> <li>- Will be looking to get feedback about lunch resets &amp; repair blocks after school</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Nuts &amp; Bolts: Logistics for the Year 7:35-7:45</p>	<p>Decisions to make:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Day of the week - Tuesday still work for everyone?</li> <li>- Timing of meetings (morning/evening)</li> <li>- Frequency of in-person meetings</li> <li>- Communication between meetings</li> <li>- Parent/caregiver representatives - official # &amp; co-chair</li> </ul>
<p>Open comment 7:45-7:55</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dinanga: How has the data been dissected for growth for Black students &amp; students w/ IEPs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- JS: Hope of grading for equity work is to get more accurate data about what is happening. Going to take a lot of granular data work and there is overlap between students who have IEPs and who are Black and African American are the same</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Updates on French? We had a promising interview for a candidate yesterday</li> <li>- Long-term plans for French while we wait for a long-term teacher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Not moving forward with Mango as we found Duolingo is actually better</li> <li>- World language coach is helping our building substitutes (one of which does speak French)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Michele - is there any guidance from the school on what the expectations are for hearing back from teachers when parents/caregivers reach out</li> <li>- Ena - bus has been coming late consistently in the afternoon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- District has been asking for regular feedback from schools about</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>when buses are arriving in the afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- As it gets colder and students are waiting outside, what will we do if the bus is late? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- This can be a problem for students with medical conditions</li> <li>- JS: in the past, we've had students sit in the auditorium when the weather gets cold</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Abigail - RAUC is a no device school but students still seem to be using devices during the day (e.g. laptops, smartphones, smart watches etc.) especially during lunch and after school <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- What is the school doing about this?</li> <li>- Is the school council a place to navigate this conversation?</li> <li>- JS: We're looking to modify our device plan this year; some middle schools are collecting devices at the beginning and end of the day. We are looking into potentially implementing this before the next school year. Allowing chromebooks during lunch or not is part of the bigger conversation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Tina: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To increase equity and student achievement: Ask the 8th grade math teacher to personally urge every 8th grader to TRY Bridge to Algebra. It serves both those who are strong math learners AND those who struggle in math (as previewing material always helps and will help these kids do better in Algebra I in CRLS). As we know, a student hearing from a teacher that they recommend this program for them will go 10x farther than a parent. Provide extra support for kids who will need it</li> <li>- Use SIP funds for stipends for School Council staff and parent reps -- I hear at PAUS is paying \$500 per rep</li> <li>- Have an open "scratch pad" at the start of each School Council meeting (Google Meet comments or empty Google Doc) for participants to type in ideas/thoughts ahead of open comment so that all the ideas can be seen even if there is not enough airtime to speak to all of them. Ideas that feel worthwhile can be added to the agenda for next year without disruption and for people who can't stay for the whole meeting.</li> <li>- As part of School Council notes, have a bulleted list of "Key Takeaways" for people who don't have time or English fluency to read all the notes</li> <li>- For transparency, could you share the school's MCAS data that backs up the points made on the "Current Progress to Goals" slide?</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Next Steps	