



# MIRA MESA HIGH SCHOOL

10510 Reagan Road • San Diego, CA • 92126

*A California Distinguished School*

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## Minutes from Site Governance Team Meeting

April 9, 2019

Call to Order – J. Christensen @ 2:34

In Attendance: J. Sabins, B. Lauriano, C. Hight, R. Newell, J. Christensen, J. Earnest, L. Murray, A. Reiss-Malone, E. Martinez, J. Sabeh, S. Barrett, H. Hilley

### Old Business –

- Approval of March minutes – motion by B. Lauriano and seconded by J. Earnest – All members present were in favor

### New Business –

- Standard Policy for Field Trips (to begin 2019-2020 School Year) – this discussion is to make recommendations to Administration and ILT.
- J. Christensen believe if we give a decision that ILT would approve whatever decision is made and should be set for next school year and not for the 8 weeks left this year. On a good note no emails by staff were sent to Jeanne this time around. J. Earnest believes that with an advance notice and a student forgetting or procrastinating to get signatures on the white slips the teacher in charge for the field trip should mark the student off the list to go. A. Reiss-Malone stated that some teachers have said that they prefer the white slips going around so they can have the one on one discussion with that particular student. B. Lauriano said that if a student procrastinates the teacher should alert the teacher of field trip that a particular student brought them the white slip in an untimely manner. S. Barrette state maybe both should apply not only the email of the list of students on field trip but also the slip going around to classrooms. R. Newell said that some passes come around without the student information portion no being fully filled out by student which makes it seem that the student may have other ideas for their slip ie....giving copies to other students or even forging passes. J. Christensen said that a list should come out for every field trip that is planned not only for athletics but any student that is involved on a field trip. R. Newell agreed regarding the list of student names to their teachers along with a slip so you can cover both ends. S. Barrett believes teachers need to send out list as soon as possible in order for the class teacher to plan accordingly. J. Sabeh asked does the list even matter?? Looking at student equity saying that athletes are going regardless why say “NO” to other students, do teacher’s really have the power when in the end as far as athletes are concerned they can’t be told “NO”?? J Christensen stated that most athletes have a 6<sup>th</sup> period class other than freshmen and are not affected when leaving for a game. J. Sabins said that teachers like the white slip because they have a means of a one on one with that student versus a list where you have to check a list and then see if your student’s name is on that list. L. Murray-if a student is allowed to go anyway why are we even signing passes or have them??? Some passes are signed by teachers and some are not signed, something needs to be established if all “out of classroom” activities are the same?? J. Sabins – some teachers are ok with allowing athletes to go to their event but no ok with allowing other students out for their events ie...drama students, dance or Read Across America, should the power be taken away from teacher’s and put on Administration to approve or not approve a student to go on a field trip. Forged passes are not easy to track because there is not a high volume of problems with forged passes.



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Often teachers take saying “NO” to an extreme making the student jump thru many hoops just to get approval to attend the field trip. L. Murray believe that the way this system is designed makes it a combative one among teachers because if a teacher says no and doesn’t sign a slip it affects the teacher planning the field trip then you have two teachers at odds. S. Barrett-in the end the students that jumped thru the hoops get to go on the field trip. Problem with this particular situation is that the teacher is waiting until this student is asking to leave the classroom to address the real issue that has been apparent in the class with this student, why didn’t the teacher address the students...grade, attendance, tardies, etc... before the field trip came up for the student?? J. Sabins – Most of the problem with field trips mainly come up with AP Students especially during the testing time. Should Admin be the ones with the power to approve a student’s ability to attend the field trip??, that way if there are any complaints the teachers can come speak with Jeff. J. Christensen-some weight should be given to teachers if a particular field trip is approved by Admin., or got to a standardized policy that Admin approves the field trip and give all other teachers access to dates and rosters of students involved with those field trips. Faculty should not be at odds with one another over field trips. J. Sabins-what happens when a student isn’t approve in the instance when a student and their family has invested money in the trip, can we tell that student “NO”?? Unless there is a very serious reason like suspension that particular student will not be denied especially when the school has to reimburse the family. S. Barrett-is there a document that states that athletes can attend their game even if a teacher doesn’t approve?? Why are these teachers waiting to so long to address their issues with these students?? J. Earnest – has never had any issues with coaches when letting the coach know that certain athletes grades are slipping, in his experience coaches are very receptive in regards to their athletes grades and classroom behavior. S. Barrett asked is there a shared calendar that would allow teachers to loo at upcoming field trip dates allowing teachers to be proactive with concerns and grades?? J. Sabeh-teachers aren’t going to take the time to look up all that information, they just don’t have the time and don’t see why wasting their time with that when in the end these students are going to attend the field trip anyway?? J. Sabins-if Admin takes over them more restrictions with field trips may need to be set in place. J. Sabeh-if teachers have the authority to say “NO” will it stick?? Teachers don’t want to be pitted against each other. L. Murray-we should just approve the field trip and put the responsibility on the student for the work missed just like any other excused absence. If the student has chronic absence issues then attendance needs to look at the absence issue. J. Barrett-responsibility should be on the student to make up work and be responsible for themselves when not in class due to a field trip. Is there a policy that states that not all out of class field trips are equal?? Does the teacher really have the power to stop the student or is it just a façade?? J. Christensen-Collectively is there any one feeling that there is a possibility that SGT is in agreement to some type of decision regarding who has the “POWER” in regards to Field Trips/Co-Curricular/Athletics? J. Barrett – use a field trip as leverage to help boost the communication between the teacher and student in order for the student to make-up work and build some trust with the teacher. J. Sabins is fine with Admin. being completely in charge of approving field trips but the decision has to be made amongst the members of SGT and ILT before that occurs. J. Christensen is going to start a group email in order to put together the best worded email or letter that would go out to teachers regarding whatever change is agreed up for the 2019-2020 school year. J. Sabins-stated he would like to be kept off the



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group email regarding the policy change that may take place but would like it to start with departments discussing it among themselves along with ILT and leadership.

## **Roundtable –**

H. Hilley-what is the process of athletes receiving their letters for varsity events?? Last year Lacrosse didn't get any letters or bars. Soccer and Lacrosse were both told to go and see R. Lardizabal.

J. Sabins- needs everyone to be aware of the "late start" issued coming back around, most folks interested in 1- 6 traditional start time is a 59% versus a 41% that wanted to look at block schedule. SGT & SDEA have the influence on whether we go to late start, if we go to late start, every year it will be voted on unless it comes from the state. Schools that are piloting get their priority late start time. May 1<sup>st</sup> the Mira Mesa and Scripps Ranch pod will be holding a meeting regarding the start time, the meeting is at SRHS @ 6 pm. More than 50% of the High School want late starts, if this happens that city conference can vote to push for later games, we are 5 years away from our 2<sup>nd</sup> gym.

C.Hight – there will be no "Taste of Mira Mesa" this year, due to new roles of people in the foundation being settled, we are setting a higher goal of \$10,000 for the pledge drive which we are hoping to reach

J. Christensen – Russell needs to find some basic ethics to give us as suggestive guidelines to put in place for next year as a "Best Practice" or just some "Tips" for teachers.