9/15/2026
Start: 3:01pm
End:
Attendance:
Donna Grim
Beth Spencer
Brittany Howard
Drew Halvorson (left at 4p)
Mary Roy
Alka Ramchondani - Raj
Brenda Dvorak
Jamie Torrano
Lianna Samuel
Rachael Hunter
Brittany Enos - Harrit (via google meet)

Election/Secretary

- Secretary: Drew Halvorson - teacher 5th grade
- President (keep to the timeline, smooth sailing)
    - Lianna Samuel AND Jamie Torrano

Attendance Pamphlets

- Review pamphlet
    - Concept behind it: see all of the information around attendance through a pamphlet that students will be taking home in their Monday Folders so everyone can see it in hand
    - Steps explained for if your student is absent (attendance codes, independent study, short term absence, medical absence and appointments)
- Attendance update:
    - Start of the school year (first week) = top 10 in the district
    - By the 2nd week = not in the top anymore

VAPA Budget Review *(very restricted budget)*

- Visual and performing art
- Prop 28 = funding the arts for the schools in the state of CA
    - Schools get a lump sum of money to use in the course of 3 years to find the art teacher (money not used = goes back to the state)
    - GV pays for 19 hours of an Art IA through VAPA money
        - Start at $7,500 which is more so every grade can do a clay project
        - Currently around $100,000 in her budget
    - Supports Music as well (vocal music for the prep for 1st - 5th grade at GV)
    - Band Teacher (don't have it yet at GV) → position is paid for by the school district, but is also given VAPA money to have instruments for students at the school, by new music, etc.

    - Assemblies for the school
    - Dance Program maybe to be added at GV? There is a dance lady in the district to possibly try to do it at GV
- VAPA - 80% for salary & 20% for supplies/assemblies

→ try and get the music teacher for next year to bring her on full time at GV to work with K & TK for music

→ GVTC - don't know if it will continue after this year because the teacher is retiring - used and supported by parent enrichment fees

- It can't use VAPA right know that we know because it is an after school program
- If there is no more script creator then we can try and use VAPA money to purchase a script (BUT we have musicals in the library too to use)

******Is there an opportunity for Kinder & TK to get the opportunity to do Music & Dance for them???******

****** What is the expectation for dance class for grades at GV?******

****** Is there a way we can get GVTC funded by VAPA money?******

****** Is there a contingency plan for future years of GVTC?******

****** Show VAPA breakdown for the year******

<u>Data Update</u> (comparing 24/25 to 25/26 school year for GV only)

- Looking at Student Data that Kim Vowels created (our new TSA) - creating a deep data dive
    - Ms Vowels is here M,W,F at GV
- Overarching view coming into this school year
- CA healthy Kids survey → increased
- SEW (social emotional wellness) → increased
- DIBELS (reading) → 87% of all students reached benchmark
    - Not a huge correlation between DIBELS and CAASPP testing
- CAASPP ELA → 3rd 73% at or exceeded benchmark (up from 12%), 4th 74% at or exceeded benchmark (same %) & 5th 82% at or exceeded benchmark (down 1%)
    - 4th Cohort up 13% & 5th Cohort up 8%
- EOY Star Screener → 88% of all students met benchmark
- CAASPP Math → 3rd up 13%, 4th down 17%, 5th down 1%

*****Are we looking at breaking the data down?*****

- No but thats what we are going to start doing

*****Is there follow up for the 5 questions SEW if they don't answer very high?*****

- No follow up questions on the computer BUT Principal and School Counselor will follow up separately

-Overall trends are going up in our data

-Focus: -Continue BASI groups
-Continue CLT
-Reading interventionist will start soon

Site Council Overview

Purpose of SSC

-SSC comes together with parents and teachers to improve our school. 3 goals, 2 academic and 1 SEL goal. Brings together the community and the school. SSC works together with the Learning Fund to help the school and community reach these goals each year.

Other:

- Rainbow room: para professionals deliver a program for kids who are brand new to the school, outside events that affect students in school
- Play base learning focus - not truly counseling but they will be coached through play based learning to help students navigate
- Spoke on different acronyms and curriculum of each grade, as well as assessments and tests
- CAASP is state assessment
- Keeping it BASIE not just BASI–having one small group for kids focusing on “extension of learning”

Next Meeting

- Look at VAPA Money Breakdown
- On October 20th

School Site Council Meeting Notes

Arts, Music & Enrichment Programs

- **Colts Connection**
    - Publishing a brochure regarding absenteeism.
- **Proposition ? / Visual Arts Funding**
    - The school receives a lump sum each year for arts programming.
    - Funds can apparently be used over a three-year period.
    - Approximately **80% of funding needs to be spent on salaries**, with the remainder available for supplies and assemblies/programming.
    - Current programs/funding discussed:
        - **ART 1A teacher:** 19 hours of paid time.
        - Approximately **$7,500 budget for clay projects**, which have been extremely well received.
        - Looking for a **music teacher/vocal coach for grades 1–5**.
        - **Band/strings teacher** is paid through the school district/school funding.
        - Exploring additional **dance programming/workshops**. Shavarte may potentially teach, depending on scheduling and the time of day.
        - Programming is part-time this year.
    - Question regarding **VAPA funding:** Is the funding divided by particular arts disciplines/topics, or can it be allocated across all VAPA programming?

- **GVTC / Theater**
    - The theater teacher is retiring.
    - Need to determine what the theater program will look like next year, including **after-school enrichment**.
- **Cultural Events**
    - A **Japanese drumming cultural event** is planned for November.

Academic Assessments & Student Data

DIBELS / Reading

- Discussed **DIBELS**, a reading assessment/program.
- Historically, there was concern that DIBELS results did not correlate well with **CAASPP** results.
- Current instruction is intended to be more analogous/aligned to the skills reflected in CAASPP.
- DIBELS includes a timed reading component:
    - Student reads for approximately one minute.
    - Reading portion stops after the allotted time.
    - Student then answers comprehension questions.
- **DIBELS scores are higher than last year.**
- The group reviewed various student data points.
- New/mid-year data from **DIBELS and STAR Math** will be reviewed around December/January.

CAASPP

- **CAASPP is the state assessment based on California state standards.**
- CAASPP results at the end of the year will provide another data point/breakdown.
- Key philosophy discussed:
    - **The school does not teach to the CAASPP test.**
    - Instruction is focused on teaching the **curriculum and state standards**.
- There is some discretion regarding which topics and concepts need additional instructional focus.
- “Soft skills” are not necessarily captured by standardized testing.

Other Assessments

- Two major screening assessments discussed:
    - **DIBELS**: reading/literacy screening.
    - **STAR Math**: math screening.
- Other tools used to evaluate student learning include:
    - Spelling assessments.
    - Writing samples.
    - Family/daily math assessments. *(Need to confirm exact name.)*

Current Curriculum

- **English/Language Arts:** CKLA
    - *Core Knowledge Language Arts.*
    - This is the current ELA curriculum.
- **Math:** Eureka Math.
    - EngageNY was also discussed.
- **Science:** Tang Science curriculum. *(Confirm exact program/name.)*
- The school has been working for approximately **seven years on better connecting and aligning its programs/curricula.**

Helpful Resource

- Discussed creating a **"cheat sheet" of school acronyms** for the website so families can more easily understand terms such as:
    - CAASPP
    - CKLA
    - DIBELS
    - VAPA
    - LCAP
    - STAR
    - BASIE/BASI *(confirm exact acronym)*

Learning Groups / Collaboration

- Discussed **BASI/BASIE groups**, including funding and learning. *(Need to confirm the exact name/acronym.)*
- **Common Learning Groups**
    - Reading-focused group.
    - Meeting/discussion on the **28th of the month**.
- Data from DIBELS and STAR Math will be reviewed again around the middle of the school year.

Purpose of the Site Council

The group reviewed the purpose and role of the **School Site Council**.

- The Council consists of **elected teachers and parents**.
- Its role includes setting and reviewing goals for the school.
- The Council is focusing on **three primary areas/goals**:
    1. **Academic achievement**

    2. **Social and emotional connectedness/well-being**
    3. **Building connections with the broader school community**
- The Council also looks for ways the school can better **serve and connect with the community**.

Leadership & Meetings

- **Leanne and Jamie are co-presidents.**
- Meeting agendas will be distributed **72 hours before each meeting**.
- **Next meeting:** Room 27.

Goals & Upcoming Work

Three School Goals

- The Council needs to **set, review, and approve three goals** at the next meeting.
- Goals should address:
    - Academics.
    - Social/emotional connectedness.
    - Community connections.

November

- Finalize/review **CAASPP-related information and school goals**.
- Continue work around the school's goals and priorities.

LCAP

- Discussed the **LCAP** at the district level and how it relates to what the district is doing across its **36 schools**.
- Need to understand how the school's Site Council goals connect with broader district priorities.