

**Arcadia High School Site Council**  
**Minutes**  
*March 3, 2011*

**Meeting** called to order at 3:11 PM by Oliver Beckwith in C-1.

**In Attendance:** Oliver Beckwith (Teacher), Ken Johnson (Teacher), Mike Pasqua (Teacher), Angela Dilman (Teacher), Michelle Kim (Student), Justine Lee (Student), Shannon Hsu (Student), Jack Jeong (Parent), Robert Cossio (Parent), David Vannasdall (Administrator), Jennifer Lashier (Administrator), Catherine Merel (Administrator), John Finn (Administrator).

**Minutes** from the February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011 meeting were reviewed and discussed. Though the statement, “Traditionally teachers’ subs have been paid using GATE monies,” was an accurate account of statements from that meeting, Jennifer Lashier clarified that the practice of funding subs to teachers with GATE monies has occurred only within the last few years.

Motion: Ken Johnson

Second: Jack Jeong

**Motion passed.**

**AUSD budgeting situation (informational):** David Vannasdall discussed the current budget situation for Arcadia High School with the committee. He said that Dr. Shawn would be visiting schools soon to discuss the “funding challenges,” for the district. Our current level of funding is \$500 per student lower than it was in 2008. It is amazing to see how our district has handled this crisis, with an 11 million dollar deficit per year. Concessions by all groups were made, special one-time funds have been used, and now those monies are gone.

80% of the budget is in salaries so more cuts will be coming from staff. Even in the best-case scenario some cuts will be made but the likelihood of a 3 million dollar shortfall is very high. By March 15 many pink slips will be handed out to teachers. This will have a huge impact on lives and on the organization. The district will be negotiating for more concessions and waiting on the state for some good news.

This is sad and disruptive to our funding structure and terrible for students. The big picture is our need to fix the system with its good and bad years; we are hoping for the best and preparing for the worst. The responsibility for the school is to have the required classes with minimal damage to students. David Vannasdall closed by encouraging everyone to contact legislators, give money to the Arcadia Educational Foundation, and go to the polls.

Mr. Cossio stated that he had a similar situation when he was in high school and students held an art auction as a fundraiser. Mr. Vannasdall will put him in touch with the AEF.

Ken Johnson appreciated the communication to students at House of Reps meeting and Michelle and Justine brought up the fact that the message had gone out through facebook and tumbler blogs.

**GATE/Block Grants (approval):** A question about the Science Bowl trip to Nationals was made, but that is paid for by the Science Bowl foundation, not from Arcadia funds. The current GATE committee approved expenditures include Teachers using subs for AP readings and a sub and lab fees for 60 science students. Mike Pasqua stated that GATE funds for teachers attending AP readings would most likely not be available for teachers next year due to then budget crisis. The total amount for the period was \$1965.

Motion: Angela Dilman

Second: Ken Johnson

**Motion passed.**

Discretionary Block Grant funds are estimated to be in the 31,000+ range pending various expense finalizations. Ms. Lashier made a motion to table the previously approved \$1042.63 for the Choices software program until July when a decision will be made on retention of the class. The funds will be used if the class is retained.

Motion: Mike Pasqua

Second: Jack Jeong

**Motion passed.**

**SPSA plan update (informational)** – Catherine Merel stated that the Single Plan for Student Achievement was approved by the AUSD School Board. Following the SPSA six teachers have been trained with Link Crew and classes for struggling students will be offered next fall.

Oliver mentioned that the WASC plan outcome was a “six year clear,” the very highest rating given to schools by WASC.

**Adjournment:** Oliver Beckwith adjourned the meeting at 3:56 pm in C-1.

**Next Meeting: April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Room C1.**

**Next Treats:** Oliver Beckwith