

POWAY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Educational Technology Advisory Committee (ETAC) Meeting
March 21, 2016
6:30 p.m.
District Office–Community Room

Minutes

I. Call to Order – Welcome

Jessica called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Present: Sunny Rickard, Gabriela Dow, Jessica Xu, Joe Long, and Noah Li.

Absent: Scott Himelstein, Adalia Lavado, Brian Senese, and Dena Glynn.

Non-voting Board representative present: Michelle O’Connor-Ratcliff

II. Review and approval of minutes for February 23, 2016.

Joe moved to approve the February 8, 2016 minutes with suggested edits. Gabriela seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

III. Public Input

No public comment.

IV. Old Business

A. Review Administration’s responses to technology and related questions ETAC members provided to PUSD Board and Administration.

An org chart of the IT Department was presented (no copy was provided to committee members). Gabriela moved to receive the information and continue to receive answers to the additional committee questions as the district provides them. Jessica seconded. Four members voted in favor, one abstained.

B. Finalize key proposals to PUSD board from ETAC members on three prioritized topics: Leadership, Health and Safety, District Technology Plan.

Joe moved to remove the word “finalize” from this agenda description. The committee members and Board representative explained that an existing and posted agenda cannot be changed. The motion was not seconded.

The committee discussed recommendations for the topics of Leadership, and Health and Safety. It was discussed that Dena and Adalia were expected to prepare draft recommendations for the District Technology Plan portion.

Leadership:

1. The District should present a clear vision of the appropriate role for technology in education.

All committee members present voted in favor: Joe Long, Sunny Rickard, Gabriela Dow, Jessica Xu and Noah Li.

2. The District should fund Physical Education, Arts and Music at a level that is at least comparable to the funding for technology.

Joe Long abstained. All other committee members present voted in favor: Sunny Rickard, Gabriela Dow, Jessica Xu and Noah Li.

Health and Safety:

1. The District should offer students a paper-based curriculum as an alternative option to instruction based on computers and mobile devices.

Joe Long voted no. All other committee members present voted in favor: Sunny Rickard, Gabriela Dow, Jessica Xu and Noah Li.

2. The District should address the health and safety risks associated with digital devices, such as internet addiction, vision health, radiation, cybersecurity and privacy.

All committee members present voted in favor: Joe Long, Sunny Rickard, Gabriela Dow, Jessica Xu and Noah Li.

3. The District should only introduce technologies that have been adequately studied through independent peer-reviewed research that demonstrates the new technology will not pose a health or privacy risk and will measurably improve student achievement.

All committee members present voted in favor: Joe Long, Sunny Rickard, Gabriela Dow, Jessica Xu and Noah Li.

C. Discuss objectives and implementation of key proposals to the PUSD board:

1. Leadership - Priority in budget allocation and curriculum implementation;

2. Health and Safety - Workshops on detrimental health effects of digital devices (i.e. Computer Vision Syndrome, Myopia/Nearsightedness, Internet Addiction) and safe usage of internet (i.e. Internet Security, Cyber Civility);
3. Technology Plan - Better technology training for teachers; more efficient and sustainable tech support; measurable results; communication, adjustment and continuous improvement.

Noah moved to postpone this discussion until after specific recommendations are approved. Gabriela seconded. All voted in favor.

D. Discuss measurements for success and ranking systems like Niche.com, Newsweek and US News & World Report.

Jessica moved to table this topic until further notice. Noah seconded. All voted in favor.

V. New Business

None.

VI. Closing Comments and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm and the next meeting was set for April 18, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.