

# Portola High School School Site Council

Meeting  
November 30, 2022  
4:00-5:30 pm

The Portola High School School site council met in a regular session on Tuesday, September, 28th at 5:00 pm. The meeting was held at Portola High School, 1001 Cadence, Irvine, CA, 92618, in the Principal's Meeting room.

School Council Members present:

- Caryn Cherry (Year 2)
- Nancy Wang (Year 1)
- Jon Resendez (Year 2)
- Ryan Itchon (Year 1)
- John Pehrson
- Jen Ochsner
- Caroline Wang
- Michael Shen
- Skyller Liu (alternate/stand-in Secretary)

School Council Members Absent

- Madyson Chung Lee (excused)
- Amanda D'Avila (Year 2)
- Amanda Cramer
- Christina Pa (Year 1)

## Agenda

Called to order at 4:02pm by Caroline Wang

### I. Challenge Success Data - John

- a. **Notes:** Introduction to the data - will be used at upcoming staff development meetings. Students had Portola's top descriptors as: caring & welcoming, fun, beautiful, difficult & stressful. Teachers described school as: caring & welcoming, challenging & rigorous. 2.9 hours per school day spent on work for teachers. There is a correlation between homework duration and grade level (lower grades = less homework).

46% of teachers thought it would be beneficial to coordinate major projects and assessments to reduce student stress. Discussions are happening in regards to homework for students - there are also developments for increasing teacher coordination. Homework assignment is not entirely to the discretion of individual teachers, as there is an element of department coordination.

Flipped instruction was proposed as a solution to the workload issue. A point is brought up that the creation of these materials takes a very long time and isn't always feasible. A lot of homework's weight + load is dependent on the student's own course selection/rigor.

- II. Principal's Youth Advisory Committee - John
- a. **Notes:** Had first meeting on 11/30/2022. Established meeting norms + program goals. The purpose of the committee is to provide another avenue for student input: it's essentially a student aided deepdive into the different programs & functions of the school. Meets quarterly in a single big group + more frequently meetings in small groups.
- III. Attendance during Office Hours - Jen
- a. **Notes:** Attendance has not been taken in OH for the past 7 years since the school places a lot of faith/trust in the responsibility of the students. This is a policy that will now be changing; attendance will be taken via scanners + new app. This app will record student movement during OH and provide this data to parents. Many teachers expressed interest in the new OH app. App will be implemented in the second semester (probably will be an extension of the pilot program).
- IV. "PHS is Growing" [Update](#) - John
- a. **Notes:** There will be no boundary change for PHS, so the student population is expected to reach 3000 at its peak. The district is being proactive in ensuring PHS is accommodated for this change. Main issues with this are logistics in regards to housing students and staff in classrooms without compromising collaboration. There is a planned two story structure that will be built on campus (will basically be a copy of the 600s building). This construction will take a long time, so the school will be getting 10 portables over the summer (will have various classrooms + collaboration spaces). From that point on, portables will be installed based on population needs. In order to accommodate the new building, the JV + Varsity softball field had to be moved. PHS is growing at an unprecedented rate (typical highschool max population is 2,600 - when this figure is exceeded, a new school is created). There is currently a massive number of 5-8th graders who are expected to transition into Portola (roughly 2.8k). Portola is expected to grow by an additional 200 students from 2022-2023 → 2023-2024. PHS is no longer participating in the 1:1 student exchange.
- V. May Meeting Date Change - Tuesday, May 9th
- VI. Calendar for Year  
Meetings planned: 3/15, 5/9
- VII. Other topics to be covered at future meetings:
- a. LCAP Process (Timeline) LCAP Overview
  - b. SSPSA process and approval
  - c. Survey Information
  - d. Summer programs
  - and more....

Meeting adjourned at 5:02pm by Caroline Wang