

RINCON HIGH SCHOOL  
SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

**Monday December 2, 2024**

Members Present: Marc Zelov, Megan Cramer, Andrew McDonough, Alissa Welch, Kristin Zelov, Elyse Damiani, Catarina Lopez, Laura Grijalva, Pablo Madrid, DeeDee Scott, Emily Verdugo

Guests Present: Jenn Quigley, Catherine Fakler, Richard Botkin, Jennifer Quijada, Bernie Myro, Guy Velgos, Zach Bentele, Olivia Proctor

Agenda:

- I. Meeting was called to order at 3:33 pm.
- II. Kristin Zelov made a motion to approve October minutes. Motion seconded by Andrew McDonough. Motion passed.
- III. Call to the Audience:

Richard Botkin:

- 6/5th teachers not enough time to eat and decompress
- Students coming in with food still after lunch which is a safety issue with science labs going on
- His alma matter Sahuaro has 45min lunch with 1400 students

Bernie Myro:

- Would like the 5 or 10 min back to lunch
- Seeing increase in eating in classrooms
- The 5 min adds up for teachers who must run to office or have any kind of adult interaction

Catherine Fakler:

- Surprised by how much she misses the 5 min
- Students come in to make up work or take a quiz which shaves time off lunch
- Students don't get enough time to do what they want to do

Zach Bentele:

- 2<sup>nd</sup> to everything that was said
- We ask students to do a lot on their lunch like go to the finance office to pay fees or get a new laptop charger, go to see counselor, and eat
- It makes a huge difference to me as a teacher, and I feel it a lot

Jennifer Quijada:

- Huge increase in students coming in late b/c they know they can't eat in her room
- Missing instructions to important labs because they come in after class has begun
- Lines to leave class for the bathroom is consistent throughout all of 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> period from after the 1<sup>st</sup> 10 min to right before the last 10

IV. Reports:

- a. Principal's Report: Regarding the 30 minute lunch: This decision was data-driven: Biweekly reviews revealed a high number of incidents during the end of lunch, particularly related to bullying and fighting. Changes were implemented and lunch was reduced from 35 to 30 minutes, with structured activities like open gym introduced and an adjusted bell schedule. School safety has improved as incidents during lunch have significantly decreased, with only two minor fights this year, preventing large crowds and reducing staff intervention needs. Students have adequate time to eat and socialize, and lunch service is completed within 15 minutes. Possibility of adjusting conference periods. End of the Semester, 11 days until final exams. Rincon is 100% Highly Qualified Staff, may be some reductions in staffing next year, TUSD is down 559 students at high school level, some moving to Project MORE or TUVA. Bond Projects: Proposing to build a new building to replace the portable classrooms. Congratulations towards those involved in the Fall musical. Sound production and sound support improvements possible for bond project. Winter sports have started. Luncheon for Top 30 Graduating Seniors coming up. Questions: None.
- b. Finance Report: Contribution of \$200 into designated funds for MESA Club but was written as undesignated. Requesting that \$200 contribution be transferred over to the MESA Club Fund. Balance on budget: \$11,763.70 (without the \$200). Vote on transferring \$200 to MESA Program: Marc Zelov motioned, seconded by Elyse Damiani. No nays, motion carried. Question: Is that all they need? Answer: Yes.
- c. PTA Report: Planning on doing staff luncheon recognizing all employees on Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup>.
- d. Rincon Ranger Foundation: Had the Breakfast this November, well-attended, thanks to Mr. Myro for assistance. Scholarships coming up, getting ready for applications, getting the word out to the top 30 seniors. Spring: Golf Tournament. No Questions.
- e. Rincon Education Foundation: Getting ready to do December Grants, will be getting out to members next week. Open to Teacher Aides as well. Funds delivered in May, December, and August. 100+ Rangers for Rincon event coming up on January 25<sup>th</sup>, looking into getting cellphone lockers for classrooms. Looking into getting new lockers for the football locker rooms. Other small projects can be submitted for assistance with funding.
- f. Student Council: Blood Drive on Wednesday December 4<sup>th</sup>, two more to go. Students are trying to get Powderpuff football running, possibly doing it on December 11<sup>th</sup>. Movie night on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Winter formal on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Hoop-coming (Homecoming for basketball) a possibility. Wanting to do more lunchtime events next semester.
- g. Action Items:  
MESA Donation, voted on during Finance Report.

Bell Schedule: Elyse Damiani read a prepared statement in favor of reinstating the lunch minutes on the bell schedule:

-Review of current admin's prior shared leadership with faculty: school years 2016-18

-Dissemination of new bell schedule through curriculum corner newsletter/No discussion with faculty or staff

-Survey Results: RUHS FACULTY. 73 teachers from both schools took the survey. 62/73 voted to increase the lunch minutes. (84%)

-3 years of suspension data - no correlation with lunch length

-Review of Laws: ARS 15-351: School councils, duties, membership/ TEA consensus agreement article 33: Shared leadership

-Motion to recommend a return of the extra lunch minutes, and the formation of a bell schedule committee. Motion seconded but tabled due to lack of quorum until the special January 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

tabled until next meeting, leaving Bell Schedule as an action item for next meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup> 2025.

- h. Discussion of Meeting Dates: Next scheduled meeting is on February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025 at 3:30 via Zoom. Motion to meet again on January 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm for a special meeting on bell schedule changes. Motion seconded and carried.
- i. Final discussions: Short Letter from Kirstin Daniels regarding TTL funding.
- j. Move to adjourn: Motion to adjourn at 4:50 pm. Meeting adjourned.