



LOS GATOS HIGH SCHOOL HOME & SCHOOL CLUB

September Meeting: 9/17/25

Meeting called to order at 7:04pm

Present: David Poetzinger (Principal), Ru Paster (President), Kelly Campbell (Grad Night Chair), Fatosh Hacigumus, Heath Rocha, Melissa Rofer (Student Volunteerism Chair/Connections Chair), Sofia Czernichow (Student Intern), Caroline Nauss (Student Intern), Suzanne Nestor (Communication Chair), Lisa Taylor-Tulee (Student Intern Chair), Siyona Singhal (Student Intern), AJ Hacigumas (Student Intern), Janice Yeh (Special Events Chair), Heather LeRoy (Job Shadow Chair), Andrea Ivarsson (Career Pathways/Special Events Chair), Serena Luo (Student Intern), Julian (Student Intern), Alexander (Student Intern),

Absent: Vik Ghai (Career Pathways Chair), Wan-Chen (Health & Wellness Chair), Twito (Website Chair)

Principal: David Poetzinger

- 6 weeks into school, sports in full swing, all parent nights completed
- Club day, talent show coming up
- Cats homework help is up and running
- Wildcat parent coffee completed with another one coming up
- Principal/student advisory committee starting soon
- Nolan Ham finished rowing 4th in world
- Impressive student achievement:
 - TR Engleman ended 15th in water polo
 - Nicole Steiner named SCC Hall of Fame Athlete of the Year
- Jake Tongus (2017 LGHS Grad) scored huge touchdown for 49ers

Special Guest: Superintendent Heath Rocha

- 1st full year as Superintendent, 10th year with the district
- State of the district
 - Board:
 - Shawn added to board and already making an impact
 - 3 board seats open next year (Dr Davies, Steve Chen, Sean)
 - Reinstated office hours
 - Superintendent Parent Advisory Committee

- Students:
 - 3100 students overall, 1850 at LGHS
 - Population decreasing then expected to plateau
- New police captain and new school resource officer
- Seeking approval for Knowledge Saves Lives (Analysis of campus safety) at next Board meeting. Looking to include recommendations in next facilities master plan
- Facilities Master Plan:
 - Discovery phase complete: 1st of 4 phases
 - Gym is 80 years old, Industrial Arts wing is 65 years old
 - Partnering with local architect: ABA
- CA Healthy Kids Survey
 - Staff/parents added to survey 3 years ago
 - Most areas up or above pre-COVID numbers
 - Staff climate/culture increased from 63 to 93%
- CAASPP Data to be released this Friday: #2 in CA for Math/Language Arts
- Course: 22 AP classes offered vs national average of 8
- New cell phone policy: increased interactions and zero issues
- Free meals for all students, food from scratch
- WE Inspire:
 - Strategic plan now in 2nd year
 - How to meet needs of all learners/how they learn best
- HR working on improving onboarding process
- Expanding stakeholder input on grading policy
- Competing priorities/State requirements:
 - PRISM: supporting LGBT community
 - SB88: drug testing/training requirements for transportation
 - WVPP: Workplace Violence protection Plan
 - AB 2534: Must get certificated verification from previous districts prior to hiring
 - CCGI: CA College Guidance Initiative
 - Personal finance graduation requirements starting with class of 2031
- AI:
 - Piloting a lockdown browser (Go Guardian)
 - Committee looking into how we use AI to ensure authentic work

President: Ru Paster

- H&SC Status & procedures – What are preferences of the group?
 - Meeting flexibility is helpful, casual is encouraging for participants, format works, no Roberts Rules of Order
- Budget to be presented for clarity and expense management
 - Need for events, intern program, etc
- Room blocking should be easier with access to Facilitron
- New volunteer names to be shared
- Planning ahead for expenditures will help alleviate personally financing programs

Communications: Suzanne Nestor

- Will send out info for wildcat social
- Staying on top of social media from school/sports
- No access to 2026. 2028 facebook group doesn't exist yet

Special Events: Janice Yeh, Andrea Ivansson

- Coffee cart on 10/1 managed by former student
- Homecoming on 10/11: Tangled theme
- Volunteers added!

Grad Night Committee: Kelly

- Bank account almost ready to go, transferring money from Sassy
- Site selection:
 - Looking at separate venue than school to improve safety, lower amount of volunteers needed, LGHS only school left still hosting on campus
- Better vendor management: fun things to do ends too early and kids are bored
- Hoping to keep pricing in low \$200's

Connections Committee: Family Outreach & New Student Support: Melissa Rofer

- Guidance hosted new student event in community room with food
- Partnering with librarian and student buddies for weekly program
- Wildcat connection coffees: 10/2 is the next one, lots of parents attended the September coffee social

Student Volunteering: Melissa Rofer

- St Mary's fair 10/2-10/3
- Beautification on first Sat of the month
- Lots of interest for student volunteers at nearby organizations
- Melissa Fisk made notice seeking events, college and career center

Student Interns: Lisa Taylor-Tulee

- Welcome attending interns: Sofia (Sophomore, volunteering/special events), Caroline (Junior, designing flyers/posters, volunteering), Seyone (Junior, special events, flyers), AJ (Senior, flyers, website), Serena (Senior, graphics, social media), Julian (Junior, helping out), Alexander (Senior, social media, flyers, helping out),
- Have handled job camp, flyers in the past
- Looking to connect interns with each committee
- Adding periodic meeting with just interns
- Looking into platforms (Team Snap) or email

Career Pathways: Vik Ghai, Andrea Ivansson

- First group of speakers (FBI, Police Chief, and request for fire chiefs) on 11/3 (Available room?)
- Looking for interns for marketing, promotions

Job Camp: Heather LeRoy

- No update