



# LOS GATOS HIGH SCHOOL HOME & SCHOOL CLUB

**October Meeting: 10/15/25**

Meeting called to order at 7:09pm

**Present:** David Poetzinger (Principal), Ru Paster (President), Fatosh Hacigumus, Melissa Rofer (Student Volunteerism Chair/Connections Chair), Suzanne Nestor (Communication Chair), Lisa Taylor-Tulee (Student Intern Chair), Janice Yeh (Special Events Chair), Wan-Chen (Health & Wellness Chair), Vik Ghai (Career Pathways Chair), Twito (Website Chair), Serena Luo (Student Intern), Julian (Student Intern), Alexander (Student Intern), Sofia Czernichow (Student Intern), Caroline Nauss (Student Intern), Siyona Singhal (Student Intern),

**Absent:** Heather LeRoy (Job Shadow Chair), Andrea Ivarsson (Career Pathways/Special Events Chair, AJ Hacigumas (Student Intern)

**Principal:** David Poetzinger

- Unplugged talent show, raised money for seniors
- Virtual workshop Dr Lempky: finding balance in age of addiction
  - returned for second year, emailed to all LG/ST parents
- First PD Day of the Year:
  - Focus 1: Writing essential learner outcomes for all courses from perspective of students rather than teachers, what students can expect from each unit, vertical alignment for all four years, embedding ways within each course to access learning and to demonstrate knowledge
  - Focus 2: Facilities 10-year master plan, ending 6 months of discovery, staff input on plan, 45 meetings between spring 2025 and summer 2026 for discovery phase and bond measure/election, campus will look very different, current buildings built 100 years apart with no cohesive plan, much of campus will be cordoned off for pedestrian only, student only places, weight room, parking garage, dedicated CTE building, consolidated athletics area,
- Principal/student advisory committee completed

- Spirit week: Adam Sandler Day, Army vs Barbie, class colors, games, spirit rally was amazing, blind folded band performance
- Homecoming game/dance: 1400 kids on front lawn, big win for Cats
- Title 9 office hours:
  - Concerning numbers of binge drinking, triple the figures from county/Saratoga/Los Altos averages (18%),
  - Reporting of sexual misconduct data dipping (Reason for concern), monthly office hours in nurses office with district rep (Meagan), Investigation options include UCP (ED Code), Title 9
- Fall music performance: choir, band, orchestra
- Board site visit to day: 27 classes, all Mosaic (Different lesson for each grade level)
  - Seniors about college apps, Juniors about finding balance, Sophomores about getting involved and finding your people and purpose, Freshman about thriving in high school
- College info night on 10/23
- Bike registration: bikes and cars get the same process, stickers, safety course for everyone, eliminate e-motorcycles

#### **Student Interns:** Lisa Taylor-Tulee

- Took volunteer training the started the year in Nov
- Explored Teams communication to avoid any safety concerns, adult shadow on all communication and meetings (Janice, Twito, Heather)
- Communication: always loop in second Board member when communicating with interns
- Meetings: In person Fall, multiple in the Spring
- Special thanks to Andy for helping with last Dopamine flyer

#### **Special Events:** Janice Yeh

- Coffee cart on 10/1 was a success (Local vendor, former student)
- Homecoming: volunteers all showed up, plenty of snacks
- Halloween teacher appreciation on 10/31

**Health & Wellness: Wan Chen**

- Welcomed Dr Lempke for workshop again
- Partnered with interns last year on marketing and Instagram
- Possible Title 9 topics: Alcohol safety presentation? Safe house pledge? Partner with Wellness Center
- Coordinate with Principal on no contact directives around intimidation for reporting, Ed Code in our backpocket - loop in District Office when needed

**Interns:**

- Why was English 9 honors eliminated this year?
  - That decision, like any with academics, emerges organically out of departments
  - English dept decided to move from homogenous to heterogenous groups, all students benefit not just top students
  - Earth space class also: created 3 tier tracking program which wasn't working for all kids, created additional hurdles, colleges only looking at what school offers and rigor, not looking at 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Is ethnic studies going to be required?
  - Non-funded mandate, which poses issues, school needs clarity (And funds) to execute, more structure could benefit incoming students
  - We have an ethnic studies class, but plans for how to meet within english and social studies
- Challenges of communicating changes to classes for rising 8<sup>th</sup> grade families. Parallel communication necessary

**Website: Twito**

- Posts all flyers/event info

**Career: Vik Ghai, Andrea Ivarsson**

- Public Servant Career Event: Nov 12th 6-7:30, FBI/Fire/Police to talk about career journeys, posted on Instagram, put flyers in teacher inboxes, leadership (Casey Wright) can help with distribution/copies

- Resume workshop/shadow day/job fair in the spring, meeting with English teachers to find ways to incorporate in the classroom/tutorial, maybe economics class
- Evening session in library, laptop cart, extra credit
- Target for early 2026 before job shadow day

**Wildcat foundation:** Fatosh Hacigumus

- Principal/Foundation approved grants for this year (Including HSC), all requests from teachers approved (\$185k), some funds remaining for spring grants
- Review HSC committee needs for future years to anticipate increases, additional expenses
- Chamber of commerce connection: Intern group not assigned much last year/lack of communication
  - First year - they were assigning tasks and events
  - Second year - some projects, but not as much as prior years, later in the year not much assigned to kids
  - This year - just kicking off now - find out the plan - need to make sure it is worthwhile for kids - agreed right now, they have some defined projects and we will invite them monthly to join COC

**Communication:** Melissa Rofer

- First Thursday locked in, Café Dio very helpful, parents are eager and bring great ideas, often 2-3 new parents and usually from another country, leftovers brought to teacher lounge
- Blossom Hill President: Cary Newman needs student volunteers for Harvest Festival
- Inter Act with Ms Fisk
- Working with Sourcewise: volunteering organization for positive card club (Delivered to seniors around holidays)
- Service learning projects
- New student lunch meetings fizzled - no one was coming - students were nervous about going to a classroom, Guidance team put on new student pizza lunch and shared information with them there –

**President: Ru Paster**

- Volunteering campaign: August, Spring, communicate with middle schools, brainstorm how to move volunteers through the process more efficiently
- 2025 – 2026 H&SC Budget
  - Last year - after deciding on winners - decided on 13 instead of 10 recipients
  - Would like to break budget out a little bit more to make sure we have listed everything we want covered
  - Do subcategories to see what spent, etc.
  - Each month do an update on where we are at, what is coming up, etc.

X '25-'26 Budget Forecast.xlsx			
A	B	C	D
Event	Timeframe	Description	Cost
T-Shirts	August	Freshman Class Welcome T-Shirts	\$ 7,000.00
Staff Breakfast	August	Welcome breakfast for kick-off staff meeting	\$ 3,000.00
Burritos for Sr. Breakfast	August	Senior Sunrise Breakfast Burritos	\$ 1,500.00
	Fall / Spring	Staff Lunches	\$ 5,000.00
Staff Appreciation	Monthly	Monthly treats for staff (Special Events)	\$ 2,500.00
Dance Treats/Décor	Fall / Winter / Spring	Décor, drinks & snacks for all dances	\$ 2,500.00
Wellness Events	Fall / Spring	Wellness Committee Events ("One Degree...")	\$ 3,000.00
College Prep Events	Fall / Spring	Career Pathways Events	\$ 4,000.00
Career Speaker Series	Spring	Job Camp Event	\$ 3,000.00
Freshman Fun Run	May	Provide food & drinks for Freshman Fun Run	\$ 3,000.00
EOY Staff Appreciation BBQ	May/June	Provide food & drinks for EOY BBQ	\$ 3,000.00
Scholarships	June	Provide H&SC Scholarships for 10 Grads	\$ 10,000.00
Total Budget Request	Annual		\$ 47,500.00

Adjourn at 8:47 pm