

# Coleman School PTO Meeting

Monday, February 5, 2024

6:00– 7:00 p.m. on Zoom

## MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions – Melinda (5 min)

2. Approve January Meeting Minutes – Anne (2 min)

Motion to approve: Tracy

Second: Melinda

All approved with 28 people on zoom

3. Youth in Arts and HeadsUp presentation and Q&A – Michelene Moayedi, Executive Director, HeadsUp and Kristen Jacobson, Executive Director, Youth in Arts (15 minutes)

Kristen introduced additional Youth in Arts team members: Jose, Director of Programs and Barbara, Program Manager

Michelene - HeadsUp entered a partnership with Youth in Arts to offer art during the pandemic. HeadsUp expanded the partnership along with the SRCS District to provide Art (30-week comprehensive art enrichment program) to all SR Elementary Schools, this is the second year of this partnership. This partnership represents the first time all SR Elementary Schools have the same arts enrichment program which is an important milestone for SRCS in our collective pursuit of increasing equity for our students across all our SR schools. HeadsUp is a non-profit organization that raises money to fund school art enrichment programs using an equity model.

Kristen - Warm up exercise: participants answer the question: think back to your experience as an elementary school student, what was your experience with visual arts as a student, type a word or an emoji into chat to express your thoughts or feelings. This exercise is to remind us why we're here - to create a space for our students to find joy in their school day, to remember who they are, what their potential is, to find their own voices through new modes of communication and expression. Youth In Arts believes in collaboration with our community, please reach out to them to provide feedback and input.

Youth In Arts is a community based organization that has been in the Marin Community for 53 years now, since funding for arts in schools was cut beginning in the 1970s. Youth In Arts collaborates with the SRCS District so that the Art program aligns with the District's priorities and goals (SRCS Together 2024 plan): 2 key components integrated into Arts program = Growth and Collaboration in Small Groups, and Growth in Self Regulation.

Youth In Arts, HeadsUp, and District are working together to figure out what the Art Program for next school year (24/25) will look like. Prop 28 was passed in California that provides funding for Arts Programs in Elementary Schools which is wonderful, the challenge is there is a lack of single subject credentialed music and arts teachers throughout California (and Marin) which is why and how Youth in Arts provides these services. Youth In Arts is working with the District to ensure Art access remains while the State figures out how to fulfill the pledge Prop 28 made.

Equity Funding Model: The Arts program is funded through contributions from SRCS District budget, HeadsUp, Youth In Arts, and PTOs to ensure all schools (including Title 1 schools) have access to foundational Multidisciplinary arts program.

Arts program for all SR Elementary Schools:

- 30 weeks of art (visual arts, music or dance) - 15 weeks in the Fall and 15 weeks in the Spring (Coleman PTO is allocating additional funding to secure all 3 art forms for students).
- 2 school site events (student's share artwork + family night)
- Community-wide events (Youth In Arts C Street Festival, HeadsUp Carnival, Downtown art gallery exhibition)

Jose - At Coleman last Fall Youth In Arts provided 2 dance programs: Hip Hop and Capoeira

#### **SAVE THE DATE:**

- HeadsUp Carnival (fundraising event that supports ALL SRCS) - April 27th at Davidson
- Youth In Arts C Street Celebration (free event) - May 18th on C Street in SR

#### **4. Crab Feed Report Out - Melinda + Tracy (5 minutes)**

Thank you to parents and teachers who attended, volunteered, sponsored, and donated!

We raised approximately \$40K in ticket sales and auction and Fund a Need!

Special Thank You and Shout Out to August and Laura secured significant food donations with their restaurant contacts, and Rachel for donating all the wine.

#### **5. Upcoming Events - Melinda (2 minutes)**

- Dine and Donate @ Gaspare's Pizzeria - Wednesday, February 7, 2024
- Family Game Night @ Coleman – Rescheduled to take place in March

#### **6. Coleman Book Fair – Save the Date! - Nicole (3 minutes)**

- **Save the Date (March 18-22)** and get excited to volunteer and welcome new books into your home!
- We're excited to be partnering with **Literati** this year! Check out their website if you're not already familiar with them: [Best Kids Books - Literati](#). We'll have a new selection of books at the Book Fair along with some journals and writing accessories but we'll have far fewer tchotchkes for sale!
- In-Person Book Fair Monday, March 18-Friday, March 22
- There will also be an online Book Fair through March 25: [Literati School Store](#)
- More information will be provided closer to the date and be on the lookout for the Sign Up to help out.
- Last year we partnered with Scholastic for our Book Fair and had over \$12K in total sales which resulted in PTO receiving \$5K in Scholastic Dollars rewards that will be used to purchase more books for Classrooms and Library.

#### **7. Principal's Report - Mr Peck (20 minutes)**

- Thank you PTO and Families for supporting the Arts and Science programs (TK-1st Garden Science and 2nd-5th BADM Try it Truck) and Assemblies, these enrichment programs are very important and students are responding very positively.
- This week students participated in Black History Celebration week through multiple activities centered around celebrating Black history, Black leaders, Black artists, Black

scientists, ect. These are the activities that are planned for Black History Week Celebration:

**BLACK HISTORY WEEK CELEBRATION**  
02.05-02.09

**MONDAY: 02/05**  
DOOR DECORATING COMPETITION  
CELEBRATING BLACK ARTIST

**TUESDAY: 02/06**  
ALMA THOMAS QUILT ACTIVITY & READ ALOUD  
RECOGNIZING THE BEAUTY OF COLOR & CREATIVITY

**WEDNESDAY: 02/07**  
WHOLE SCHOOL PATCHWORK QUILT LUNCH ACTIVITY  
CELEBRATING BLACK BRILLANCE THROUGH ART

**THURSDAY: 02/08**  
LUNCH TIME COMMUNITY BUILDING ACTIVITY  
MJ BRASS BOPPERS ASSEMBLY 1-2PM  
NEW ORLEANS BRASS BAND

**FRIDAY 02/09**  
SRHS BLACK STUDENT UNION READ ALOUD  
HONORING & RECOGNIZING OUR BLACK  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS

- iReady Data: State Testing (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades)**

### Dashboard – Academic Indicators

**English Language Arts (grades 3-5)**

**Low** 33.4 points below standard  
6.6 points

Red	Orange	Yellow	Green	Blue
EL (VL, ↓)	HOM (VL, ↑)			Wh (VH, →)
SED (VL, ↓)				
SWD (VL, →)				
H/L (VL, ↓)				

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**Mathematics (grades 3-5)**

**Medium** 14.9 points below standard  
7.9 points

Red	Orange	Yellow	Green	Blue
	EL (L, ↓)	HOM (L, ↑)		Wh (VH, ↑)
	SED (L, →)	SWD (L, ↑)		
	H/L (L, →)			

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**English Learner Progress Indicator (grades 1-5)**

**Very Low** 29.8% making progress  
23%

- Our indicator in ELA (English Language Arts) is Low. There are some concerning indicators here. In the red, we have our English Language learners, our students

who are socio-economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, and hispanic latino students. On the opposite end, we see our white students who are in the blue indicator. We have made gains, we have grown 6.6 points as a school site and we know there's a big portion of our students whom we need to continue to support who were impacted by Covid. We're seeing some holes in foundational skills that are impacting language as a whole but this is something that State-wide there has been a rather large drop in scores for the majority of schools in those indicators. We have made growth whereas other sites have remained stagnant or even dropped significantly.

- Our Math indicator is higher where we've gained 7.9 points. We're in the medium indicator, which is based upon how our subgroups are scoring, our English Language learners, socio-economically disadvantaged, and hispanic latino students are in the orange. Our white students are in the blue.
- These tests are based on End of Year grade level standards.
- The most concerning score is our ELP (English Language Progress) indicator which is very low. Last year we made significant growth in this section, this year our students dropped off significantly. We are aiming to have students make at least one year or more of growth. There is work happening on this. We will dive into this more during our School Site Council Meeting.

- **Absenteeism**

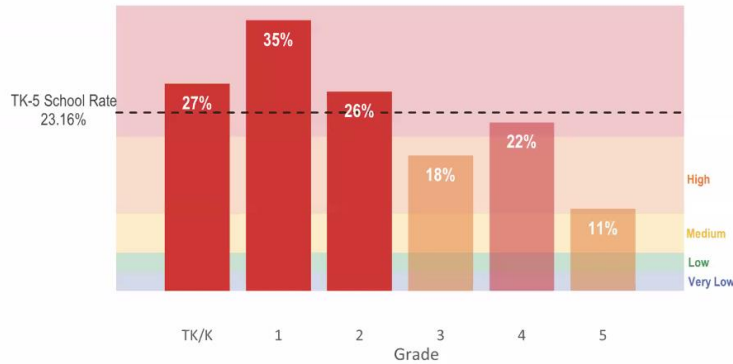
<u>Dashboard – Chronic Absenteeism, Detail</u>			
	<i>Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) Letter 1</i>	<i>Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) Letter 2</i>	<i>Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) Letter 2</i>
<b>Days absent</b>	<i>3rd missed day without a valid excuse</i>	<i>6th missed day or 30-minute period</i>	<i>9th missed day</i>
	<i>Or missing 10% or more with excuse (chronic absentee)</i>	<i>Or missing 10% or more with excuse (chronic absentee)</i>	<i>Or 30-minute absence</i>
			<i>Or missing 10% or more with excuse (chronic absentee)</i>

- Absenteeism is playing a role in both our lower testing indicators and school funding. Our highest rate of students who are absent are our English Language Learners, we're seeing that they're having a hard time with the state tests because they're missing so much classroom learning time.

## Dashboard – Chronic Absenteeism, Detail

TK/K, first, second, and fourth grade had **very high** levels of chronic absenteeism in 2022-23.

Fifth grade had the lowest rate of chronic absenteeism, which was still **high**.



Grade	Average Daily Attendance Rate	Avg. # of Students Absent
TK/K	94%	5
1	92%	5
2	93%	4
3	94%	5
4	94%	4
5	95%	5

- The data above is from last school year (22-23). Our highest rates of Chronic Absenteeism are TK-2 grade students. Coleman has the highest rate of Chronic Absenteeism of all SRCS. We will be doing work as a site to increase our Average Daily Attendance to get students in their seats to increase learning and increase state funding. An excused absence (due to illness) still results in a decrease in ADA and state funding.

### ● Youth Truth Survey: Students 3-5<sup>th</sup> grades, Staff, and Families

## Youth Truth – Student Highlights

Theme	Grades 3-5
Engagement	Highest
Relationships	Lowest
Culture	Highest
Academic Challenge	Lowest
Belonging	
Instructional Methods	

Theme	Grades 3-5
Highest Rated Question	<p><b>Engagement</b></p> <p>Does your teacher ask you to keep trying when the work gets hard?</p>
Lowest Rated Question	<p><b>Belonging</b></p> <p>Can you be yourself with other students?</p>

## YouthTruth – Staff Highlights

Theme		Elementary
Engagement	▲	Lowest
Relationships	+	Highest
Culture	+	Highest
PD and Support		
School Safety	▲	Lowest

Theme	Elementary
<b>Highest Rated Question</b>	<b>Relationships</b> Administrators treat staff with respect.
<b>Lowest Rated Question</b>	<b>Engagement</b> My school empowers me to use creativity in how I do my work.

## YouthTruth – Family Highlights

Theme		Elementary
Engagement	+	Highest
Relationships	+	Highest
Culture		
Communication and Feedback		
Resources	▲	Lowest
School Safety	▲	Lowest

Theme	Elementary
<b>Highest Rated Question</b>	<b>Engagement</b> I feel engaged with my school.
<b>Lowest Rated Question</b>	<b>Resources</b> My school has the resources necessary to achieve learning goals.

Participation Rate: 40%

- **If you want to know more about Coleman test scores, join School Site Council Meeting on Monday, February 12 at 6pm**
- **Safe Routes to School** meetings – parents should attend these meetings to share thoughts and feedback on safe drop off and pick up processes. For safety, we should turn Rafael Drive into a 1-way street to make student drop off and pick up safer for students.

## 7. Questions/Open Forum (8 minutes)

**Crystal:** Can you clarify what is considered an absence that is counted against the district and impacts funding. **Alex:** Any absence counts towards a reduction in ADA and state funding but an excused absence due to illness will not be counted as an unexcused absence for SARB.

**Nancy:** Why do we have to start school at 8am when other schools start later than us. Our family has a hard time getting to school on time with the 8am start time. Is there anything we can do to adjust Coleman's start time? **Alex:** School start times are based upon Bus Schedules and legal requirements for Middle School and High School later start times. Alex will look into the issue to see if there is the possibility to delay the school start time.

**Julie:** Is there a correlation between the school start time and absenteeism? **Alex:** Yes, we can look into that.

**Alma:** I have witnessed unsafe behavior with parents trying to get their kids out of their cars while the car is still moving.

**Crystal:** Possible idea to improve traffic at drop off and pick up: can we connect people who live near each other so they can carpool?

**Tracy:** Will the district have an attendance campaign or will each site be expected to create and implement their own attendance campaign? **Alex:** The district will have an attendance campaign, but it will be site specific to decide when and how to celebrate attendance. Sometimes it's the parent who isn't able to bring students to school, it's the student that falls victim to being absent and I don't want them penalized in a perfect attendance award.

**Melinda:** From a funding perspective, we have until March to increase our ADA to make a difference for next year's State Funding. Tell all your friends!

**Julie:** We have talked about scheduling meetings (coffee chats) with Alex and specific grade levels to talk about different topics, is this something we should look to do to discuss attendance since the lower grades have higher absenteeism rates.

**Sasha:** From a teacher's perspective, it is so important for students to get to school on-time. We start our days with morning circle for students to connect as a group, if they're late they miss out on that opportunity to feel like a part of their community.

**Crystal:** I remember when I was in elementary school I really tried to achieve the perfect attendance award. Maybe it's a pizza party for the winning class or something.

**Anne:** As we look to allocate PTO funding for next year, should we be putting funds into the budget to create a nicer, more comfortable space for students who are feeling tired or a little under the weather but not technically sick so they can rest for a short amount of time and then return to the classroom instead of going home? **Alex:** Potentially, something to discuss further.

### Reminders:

**Mid-Winter Break (no school):** Monday, February 19 – Friday, February 23, 2024

**Next PTO Meeting:** Monday, March 4 @ 6pm