

Mr. Armenta stated that recent legislation passed by Congress has created a fund called Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER). These funds will be distributed to schools by the District to address school needs associated with reopening safely, as well as to address student academic deficiencies resulting from the pandemic of the past year. The District has asked school sites to develop recommendations for how these funds can be applied most effectively at both the District and Site levels. Mr. Armenta advised the Council that he will be meeting with student and parent groups, faculty and staff groups, and members of the community to seek input on Cholla's needs. He asked for Site Council volunteers to participate in these meetings (KDong, LHetschel, GNelson, and BGreenberg volunteered).

b. ADE April 19, 2021, Site Visit

Mr. Armenta shared the results of the recent ADE walk-thru with the Council. Overall, he stated that he was quite pleased with the results, stating that the ADE team noted that there were a lot of positive things that were discussed during the ADE debrief, noting the overwhelmingly positive responses to the faculty/staff survey and the fact that ADE staff continue to be impressed by the general tone of our campus and the demeanor of our students.

c. 2021-22 Funding and District Concerns with funding

Mr. Armenta continued to assert that we're doing a good job of holding on to our students and keeping our enrollment numbers up to where they need to be to maintain our current projected budgets without any loss of FTE and staff positions.

d. Unitary Status Plan and Integration Plan (Mr. Armenta, Ms. Ingram, and Ms. Ruiz-Alegria)

Mr. Armenta deferred to Ms. Ingram for this item. Ms. Ingram noted the two recruiting billboards and advised the Council that active recruiting efforts are still underway – including an upcoming event at Catalina HS where Cholla will be represented by our very own Gloria Nelson. Ingram also reiterated that we're doing a good job of keeping our students, saying that student losses are generally being offset by new student gains. She also stated that there are no troubling trends among the students that we have lost (i.e. student losses concentrated within any particular ethnic groups). Mr. Armenta acknowledged that the Court recently approved the District's unitary status – but noted that this has happened before, so we'll have to see how this continues to unfold.

e. Athletics: Mr. Tariq Rasool

- Facilities update

Mr. Rasool began by thanking Mr. Armenta for advocating for stipends that will be paid to staff who have continued to work on campus throughout the majority of the past year, expressing his admiration for those people who diligently came in, every day throughout the pandemic and the associated lockdowns – just to keep our campus going, provide learning spaces for students, etc.

Mr. Rasool also reminded the Council of the importance of the "Three Ws": Wash hands; wear a mask; and watch your distance from others. He stated that while there are a number of encouraging signs that we may be on the verge of defeating the pandemic, now is NOT the time to let down our guard.

f. Information on Family Engagement: Ms. Sharon Ingram

- Student Enrollment numbers (including Learning Centers, In-Person and Remote Learning)

Ms. Ingram reports that we currently have 544 students coming to campus for in-person learning, 888 students still participating via remote learning, and 156 students whose families still have not declared a choice (thus are considered to be remote students, though these students are not included in the 888 count).

- Upcoming school events



Ms. Ingram advised the Council that there is a Title-I requirement for our school to hold at least one "Curriculum Night," for interested families to visit Cholla HS and learn about the various classes that we offer for their kids. Due to the pandemic, this event will be held via ZOOM, with each department contributing a PowerPoint slide to highlight their curricular activities. The event will take place on May 4, 2021, from 5:30-6:30 p.m.

Finally, Ms. Ingram stated that the final push is on to get our seniors across the finish line and ready to graduate. She's asking teachers to followup on "I" grades (incomplete) issued to students at the end of semester one – particularly seniors.

- g. 2020-2021 Teaching and Learning: Ms. Cathy Adams
 - 2021-22 Student Registration and Master Schedule

Ms. Adams reports that the 2021-2022 Master Schedule is now approximately 98% complete, with just a handful of issues still to be resolved with department chairs.

- Benchmarks and Instructional Focus

Ms. Adams reports that the Academic Intervention Team (AIT) will meet with English Language Arts (ELA) teachers to establish next year's instructional focus.

- Spring Assessment Calendar

AZ-Merit-II testing began today, with sophomores coming onto campus to take the writing portion of the test. Ms. Adams stated that the testing has experienced a few bugs – as was expected – but has gone fairly smoothly in spite of that. The ELA and math portions of the test will be administered Thursday and Friday of this week.

- Spring 2021 Final Schedule

Ms. Adams advised the Council that the schedule for Finals week is still under development, but will be released soon. She also noted that this year's prom has been combined with the Senior Luau, which will be held Friday night, May 14. She also stated that the planning for this dual event has been quite challenging, due to all the pandemic-related safety protocols.

Finally, Ms. Adams announced that we have been given permission to allow graduating seniors to bring up to four guests each to attend our May 27 graduation ceremony. She emphasized that four tickets means only four people – regardless of age (yes, even babies!).

V. Date/Time of and agenda items for next meeting Discussion

There was some discussion around the question of whether or not we needed to schedule another meeting this school year. Ms. Adams suggested that the remaining 4 weeks are going to be incredibly busy, and wondered whether or not we really need to meet again. Mr. Greenberg advised the Council that the District Governing Board requires Site Councils to meet a minimum of once per quarter and that, as of this meeting, our Council has now met twice this quarter (March 30 and April 20) and has thus fulfilled our obligation. Mr. Greenberg also advised the Council that even if we don't schedule another meeting for May, we could still call a special meeting if the need arises.

VI. Adjournment Action

Motion to adjourn: JNoriega

2nd: GNelson

Approved unanimously



If you have any questions about the above agenda – or if you have issues that you’d like the Cholla High School Council to consider, please contact our facilitator, Mr. William J. Greenberg, by email: William.Greenberg@tusd1.org.

