

**Site Council M  
Minutes for December 17, 2008**

**In Attendance:** Ladia Filip, Vicki Parker, Blanche Colson, Travis Johnson, Gregory Dunkin, Mark Rosen, Andre Brown, Stan Paulic, MarSi Vitus, Randy Bernstein, Kathy Saranpa, Stephanie Cannon

Opening Activities: One correction in the minutes: Course title was US Government not Intro to Government. Minutes were then approved.

**Old Business**

**C. Teacher Workshop Proposal**

Sasha Johnson-Freyd presented a written proposal and synopsis for a workshop titled, "Subtle Sexism in School." Randy noted that the professional development calendar has been booked for the year, so this workshop will need to be a voluntary offering. He recommended one of the unscheduled late start Wednesdays for the sexism workshop. This workshop would be scheduled for a 1<sup>st</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Weds in April or May with the school providing refreshments to encourage participation. Andre wanted to know how well attended are optional Wednesday workshops. They are pretty well attended, depending on the topic.

**Motion for this workshop was passed.**

Blanche requested that this workshop be available for parents. Sasha agreed to research this.

**D. Health proposal**

The proposal to be considered was that .5 credit of the Health requirement be taught by a Health-certificated teacher. Randy reported that he didn't think this health requirement would impact FTE. Currently there is .7 FTE allocated for Health. If we added .1 FTE, that would be enough to cover the freshman health classes next year. Kathy asked how many students are getting health credit from teachers who are not health-certified? This proposal doesn't prohibit kids from getting health credit from alternative electives for their 2<sup>nd</sup> semester. This proposal would impact the current freshman class.

Randy recommended an amendment that this just affect Classic South students, as IHS will be offering health credits to meet the full requirement and their teachers are in the process of getting certified. For IHS students this would come into play for the graduating class of 2013. There was discussion about where the .1 FTE would come from. Randy said that we would hope to cover the .1 FTE in our regular staffing plan, noting that prior to this year, we did have .8 rather than .7 FTE for Teen Health.

**This motion was approved. Classic students, beginning with the class of 2012 and the IHS class of 2013, will take at least .5 of their health requirement from a health-certified teacher.**

## **E. School Improvement Plan**

### **Goal 1,2, d**

Randy reported on the afterschool support class. We have between 5-8 SEHS student tutors helping students with at least one adult in the room. It is going nicely. Numbers are going up from 4 on the first day to now 15 students needing help. Randy asked for ideas to increase the numbers; he'd like to see 25-30 students being helped.

### **Goal 3,1,e School Décor:**

Kathy reported on the field trip taken to Springfield high and Cesar Chavez schools to see murals at both schools and said the South reps were very excited by what they saw. The Décor committee is fleshing out timelines for designing and choosing mural designs and are currently seeking submissions for ideas from students. The goal is to have the designs chosen by MLK Day in order for the designer(s) to be recognized with at least one mural completed by June.

Randy is hosting lunch meetings with students to get their ideas, pulling in students from BSU, MSAN class, Gwynn's art classes.

## **F. Tripod and Dec. 17 Late Start**

Stephanie reported on last SC meeting when we focused on Tripod targets – press and support were main topics. Today (late start Wed) followed up as focus. Staff separated into four groups relating to learning conditions that support “press and support” (relevance, support, press and critical thinking) so teachers could develop their own definitions of those concepts and how they relate to each other. We will use Jan. 5 professional development half day in developing lessons in Teaching and Learning groups that support these concepts. Eric is developing a C-note exercise for that. The goal is to strengthen our students' ability to do their best in their classes using those four conditions as a means to get them moving forward.

Re: After-school support. Blanche noted a concern that only 15 kids are showing up for the afterschool support opportunity. She wondered what the underlying assumption is for students to come. Maybe teacher referral is needed? Andre noted students do come for help from their teachers at other times of day. Travis noted that the kids who are not doing well are not getting involved. Gregory seconded Blanche's idea to find ways to encourage students to attend. MarSi reported that the Science Dept is providing incentives for students if they attend afterschool support: additional time for missing assignments, etc. Randy suggested that admins or counselors might go to classes to advertise. Most students who do come are repeat customers. Mark Rosen presented the concept of 'market segmentation': how to market to borderline kids, e.g. motivational movies. Is there a contest to identify students and then bring in a motivational speaker? It was decided to include this on next month's agenda.

### **New Business:**

AVID: Randy reported the AVID class is going well, thanks to John. He encouraged site Council members to visit the class on Tuesdays or Thursdays to see the tutor sessions. The target group – in the middle – seems to be doing quite well in studies. About 6 out of the 29 are having difficulties and are failing at least one class. Other AVID schools validate this situation and suggested consequences or incentives to do better/come to tutor support.

The AVID site team is working on how to choose the next AVID teacher as John loops with his kids. The described criteria had been presented at a previous council meeting. Randy asked the Site council to weigh in on criteria. Kathy noted that AVID was approved conditionally and the

interested teacher would need to know that. Randy is hoping/expecting that a combination of grants and district funding will be secured to cover the FTE without affecting South's budget. Stan said that some teachers concerned that this is soft funding. Randy commented that the soft money may actually protect someone's employment while we endure general fund cuts. A concern was noted that teachers might be interested in AVID because of the FTE, not because they would be a good choice.

Numbers for AVID class:

Students of color: 4 Latino, 2 African American, 1 Native American

Free and Reduced lunch: 8 out of 29

Blanche: how important is it that teachers of AVID are of color?

### **Principal's Report:**

Enrollment: no hard numbers. The superintendent is going to make decision as to either a 1500 student cap that would mean the freshman projection would be 340-50 students with few transfers. Randy has proposed a transition plan to allow 375 freshman next year to avoid a roller coaster of enrollment numbers over the next few years. George Russell is looking at \$6-13 million shortfall next year. If we have cuts of that magnitude across the district, we will have to make some cuts. Sheldon is projected at 1570 without taking transfers. NEHS is below 1000.

### **Committee Reports:**

Student Government:

Student government finished the canned food drive. Students appreciated encouragement from teachers or competition between classes. Stugov is also raising money to support families in need.

Parent Council:

Mark Rosen reported on the last meeting which featured information about community service. Many parents are not aware of all the opportunities to get community service. He thought the information was enlightening and said it is important for parents to get this information. Mark Suggested that a community service presentation for parents be institutionalized so it is presented.

### **Agenda for January 15 meeting:**

AVID The criteria for next AVID teacher will be out in January.

After School Help Center