

SEHS Site Council Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2009, 3:30 - 5:30

In attendance: Stephanie Cannon, Randy Bernstein, Rebecca Kovach, Mark Rosen, Tami Walkup, Julie Stewart, Virginia Seefeld, Ladia Filip, Juli McGlinsky, Melinda Shull, Grace Whitmore, Phebe Udo

Convenor: Kathy Saranpa

Recorder: Anna Grace

I. OPENING ACTIVITIES

There were no visitors today. Minutes were approved.

II. OLD BUSINESS

Shared Ownership/leadership

We reported on the progress our groups had made since the last meeting, then broke into small groups to discuss further goals. The groups, original members, reports and current plans of action follow:

DEVELOP OUTREACH STRATEGIES FOR MINORITY STUDENTS AND THEIR FAMILIES: Kathy Saranpa, Tami Walkup, Gregory Dunkin

Report: No action had been taken.

New Plan of Action: Meeting w/ Carmen Urbina 10/14, will look at data about the language and ethnicity of our student families. They want to find out what school information is translated into Spanish already, and what other languages would be helpful.

CONTINUE TO IMPROVE DECOR OF SCHOOL TO BE MORE WELCOMING TO STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF DIVERSE BACKGROUNDS: Grace Whitmore, Josh Hamill, Melinda Shull

Report: Working on connecting w/ Lynette Williams and student government for overlap. Checked on display cases and found that there is no master keeper of the display cases, so they can be used for school decor.

New Plan of Action: Melinda wandered around and found some particularly bare halls (400, and the back hall) The photos in the front hall are great. Bobbi and John Scott should be able to keep those rotating, and perhaps expand.

EXPANSION OF AVID/WICR STRATEGIES THAT PROMOTE SUCCESS AND TEACH COLLEGE READINESS SKILLS: Anna Grace, Randy Bernstein, Mark Rosen

Report: Many teachers are beginning to employ AVID strategies. We have a few teachers going to a critical reading seminar. Mark has agreed to be parent representative on the AVID site team. Mark also gave information at the Parent Council sponsored social hour before Parent Night about the benefits of AVID and got a lot of good parent feedback. Randy will be taking a group of Middle School Principals to Vancouver Wa to tour a more mature AVID site.

New Plan of Action: We made a plan to do a Socratic seminar at the parent education series so parents can experience an AVID best practice while discussing a high interest topic, like drug abuse. We tentatively set the date for January.

DEVELOP PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS TO HAVE SPECIAL LUNCHESES WITH

STUDENTS: Virginia Seefeld, Julie Stewart, Rebecca Kovach

Report: No action had been taken

New Plan of Action: Virginia offered to be the test model for being the first game day Friday lunch. The goal is to build relationships and help student feel at ease. Virginia will invite her students to hang out, bring a friend, have some lunch, there'll be activities to do. She will invite her classes and those kids can bring a friend.

The group would also like to do a movie night sometime this semester for the whole SEHS community

Stephanie suggested they also talk to the MSAN class for some ideas.

Phebe suggested that Student Government could advertize these lunches in their videos and in Social Studies class presentations.

EXPLORE AND IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS (E.G. ON-LINE, ALT. ED.) TO PROVIDE CREDIT RECOVERY AND THAT CATER TO STUDENTS AT-RISK OF LEAVING SEHS EARLY / SET UP AFTER-SCHOOL STUDY HALL FOR INELIGIBLE ATHLETES AND OTHERS WHO ARE REFERRED FOR EXTRA HELP: Phebe Udo, Pete Hamm, Juli McGlinsky

Report: Phebe met with David Hancock and Steve Eastman. She found out that they get grades sent to them every 2 weeks. And then each coach can decide on the consequences. Phebe let them know about the afterschool study hall. Virginia mentioned that consistency among coaches would be great, as far as penalty for being late due to afterschool studying, at what points grades are low enough that kids should be exempt from practice until their grades rise. Randy mentioned that a system of communication would be helpful

8-9 kids are regularly attending the afterschool study hall.

Julie, Stephanie and Ellen have been meeting regularly to figure out how to deal with credit recovery. They have 25,000 to develop a program, now that night school has gone away. On line credit recovery is very appealing for a number of reasons. Stephanie will be going up to Salem Keizer schools to look at their online credit recovery. We are behind, district wide, when it comes to on-line credit recovery. Ideally we would open our program to students from other area high schools.

New Plan of Action: They will meet with Dave Hancock to create a protocol for support for struggling athletes. Stephanie will check into how much credit kids can get for attending afterschool study hall every day

IMPROVE FRESHMAN ADVISORY PROGRAM/CURRICULUM / REGULAR FOLLOW-UP (AT LEAST QUARTERLY) WITH SUMMER BRIDGE STUDENTS AND INVITEES:

Tim Bjornstad, Ladia Filip

Report: We have had a good response from the school of education for tutors, so we've been able to put tutors into the advisories as well as AVID. Travis and Elton are swapping advisories so they can teach to their strengths, Elton taking on multicultural education, Travis doing a CRLS piece.

New Plan of Action: No new plan

E. Cultural Competence

Randy and Stephanie, modeling the practices they observed, employed some cultural competency exercises to spark discussions and activities. We discussed the achievement gap (See Teaching Tolerance; The Source of Achievement Gaps) and then saw clips of experts discussing the topic.

On Jan 4th the entire K-12 4J will be here. Coaching for Educational Equity will give presentations and do training around these issues. A hoped for outcome is to identify students of color who could be achieving at higher levels and have each teacher choose a student to encourage.

III. PRINCIPALS REPORT

Enrollment holding steady at 1560 (forecast for 1520) Teachers are doing a great job, despite some pretty packed classes. Teachers are dealing with it professionally and doing the best they can. Some great work is being done in the frosh classes, particularly because of the success of uniformity between classes, and the great work being done in Health and Advisory.

Algebra conceptualized is happening. An 8th period class offered for any kid who fails a concept, and they must pass a test on each concept before they can move forward. The good part is that those kids would have fallen behind. This way they're really unable to. It can be frustrating for math teachers and students, because what is taught is narrowed down to the tests. It will be interesting to see how it progresses.

Test Day was very successful. We tested 95% of sophomore and juniors. Many kids also go their senior project finished.

IV. COMMITTEE REPORTS

G. Student Government

Student Government is working on blood drive, Friday October 16. Homecoming and homecoming assembly are coming up. They are trying to open a new courtyard between 300 and 400 halls for student and teacher use. They have two fundraisers planned, at Mucho Gusto and Fina. On Monday, 10/12 Student Government did their first presentations to Social Studies classes, these went very well.

H. Curriculum Committee

Due to the number of new courses, Curriculum Committee thought it might be a good idea to reevaluate how they are doing at semester. They also discussed credit recovery. Night school is not going to happen and a number of kids were counting on that program. We are looking into on line options.

I. Parent Council

The parent Council hosted a very successful Social Hour prior to Parent Night this year. This year Parent Council would like to gather and focus parent input for the for the school improvement plan.

J. Set Next Agenda

We will continue our discussion around school improvement plan.