

High School Council Meeting Minutes

For February 2, 2010

Students: James Davock, Connor Davock, Erin Espinosa

Teachers: Frank Hoek, Marcelle Foucre

H.S. : Mr. Pearson, Dot Pearl

Parents: JoAnne Muench, June Miller, Sue Rorke (missing: Sue Fasoli)

Next Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 2 at 3:30

Discussions:

- ◆ College Life from the Eyes of Graduates went very well. At least 16 graduates participated (apparently Facebook worked well), and Senior attendance was high. The seminars took place in the auditorium.
- ◆ Credit for Work and College was scheduled for February 5.
- ◆ The Interview Seminars are still in progress with plans to coordinate College Interviewing with Job Interviewing
- ◆ Jimmy and Mr. Pearson are developing a website to provide on-line listings of all the afternoon announcements. Mr. Pearson is also considering a mechanism to text students with a keyword. This keyword would serve as a notification to the student that there is an announcement for a particular activity (club/sport/etc). Community Service students will help maintain these announcements.
- ◆ The One Call notification system which will call students home phone with emergency or extremely important information is developed and ready for use. The phone numbers are found in the student database.
- ◆ The High School staff will undergo an administrative change, with the Vice Principal being replaced by two Deans – a Dean of Student Services, and a Dean of Academics and Activities. The existing responsibilities over 800 for one Vice Principal are a challenge. A potential break down of responsibilities for the two deans might be the following – depending on the hired candidates' experience and skills:
 - Dean of Student Services: Guidance, Special Ed., Discipline responsibility for ½ the students (note: once a student is assigned to a Dean, they will stay with that Dean for all 4 years), Report cards, Attendance, Student Assistance Team, Events, Class Observations
 - Dean of Academics and Activities: Student Activities and Fees, MCAS, Graduation, Supervise departments without heads (art, music, technology and phys. ed.), Faculty services (or is it Faculty??), Athletics, Discipline responsibility for ½ the students, Handbook, Senior Photos, and Class Observations.
 - The Principal may retain responsibility for Final Evaluations of teachers – Every 2 years for professional teachers, and Annual evaluations for non-professional teachers.
- ◆ The Selection Process for the Deans is anticipated to be a 45 day process. After resumes have been screened to 8 – 12 finalists, a committee of student(s), parent(s), teachers and department heads will conduct 45 minute interviews with each

candidate. This committee will then recommend finalists to the Principal (and Superintendent); and two deans will be selected/hired.

- ◆ The Council then watched the movie *2,000,000 Minutes*, which highlights some differences in education and attitudes among students from China, India and the U.S. The movie's agenda was to show that the U.S. is lagging in Science and Math education... the statistics given, and insights into the future by education experts was extremely plausible. The movie stressed that we are moving quickly (have moved already) to a global economy, and the working world of today's youth will almost certainly look very different, and today's education should at least be providing more advanced math and science. After the movie we talked about whether it should be offered to parents, and we all agreed that it's a valuable movie with a valuable point of view. Recommended that discussion group(s) accompany the viewing.