

PAC MEETING MINUTES – April 27, 2011

Attendees: Terry Odendahl, Martha Larson, Tricia Fitzpatrick, Leah Kahn, Jody McCarthy, Naomi Flint-Winicki, Kevin Braney, Laura Jordan, Marcella Setter, Leanne Lockhart, Lauren Hager, Karen Blakemore

Martha Larson: Welcomed everyone and thanked everyone for all their work.

No one present for Counseling Report or Student Council

Kevin: **Student Council** putting on Drinking and Driving Assembly tomorrow, sponsored by sophomore class.

Also, the Sheriff's Dept. will remind seniors about crack down of senior camp-out.

Terry Odendahl – Treasurer's Report

Terry presented a printout of the budget. PAC had \$25,000 in the beginning of the year with \$17,300 allocated to spend. Many items have not been spent such as Printing and Postage, Misc., Highlights expenses, Showcase. So after deducting expenses for the end of this school year, and maintaining a reasonable amount to carry over for next year, PAC has about \$8000 to spend this year. Executive Committee's idea: to give Kevin half of it (\$4000) to be used at his discretion and divide the rest amongst the instructional departments at BHS. Kevin: message from staff for PAC money: outdoor and indoor building improvements are at the top of their list. Terry will check in with Ricky, the school treasurer about the formula to divide funds amongst the departments. Kevin feels staff will most likely use the funds for classroom improvements. Terry will also check with Dolly Dean to see how well the staff's requests have been filled through Make A Difference. However, she feels parents have a separate opportunity to donate to MAD, so having PAC make a donation to those causes might not be the most appropriate way to disperse funds. Final decisions will be made at the May PAC meeting.

Terry will not be here between May 21st and June 8th. Lisa will have to write checks.

Nancy Stevens- Highlights: Hoping to get the June issue done this year with all the graduates plans and awards.

Hasn't been able to find a way to get Highlights translated. More discussion on that later. Kevin is going to discuss with Lauren Lough.

Tricia Fitzpatrick– DPC (District Parent Council)- Missed the last DPC meeting. Superintendent presented the budget.

Handed out the finalized "Reality Check @ BHS" flyer. Looking great! Explains parenting seminars coming up in Sept. and Nov. 6:30-8:30pm in band room. Kevin will moderate the panel of speakers. Nothing like having events planned for next year already!

Leah Kahn and Jody McCarthy – the Dynamic Duo for Staff Appreciation! -

Did a Staff Appreciation Luncheon this past month. During finals week, going to give out gift cards, something fun that has to do with summer. Everyone agreed this is one of PAC's best committees and should be well funded next year. It is very appreciated and it's so much easier for the committee to just be able to purchase everything rather than relying on donations.

Karen Blakemore – DAC (District Accountability Committee)

Passed out draft work flow for SAC and DAC. Explains how the committees work and what they do.

SAC: School Accountability Committee – Parents and faculty together. Interviews will be held with seniors to hear their thoughts about school climate.

Laura Jordan – Reading Dept.

Hoping to run 2 accelerated reading classes next year- One semester LA elective for successful kids that have areas of struggle honing strategy skills to improve grades by getting more out of their texts. Trying to encourage pleasure reading.

Reading Workshop- Full year elective. Hoping to have 4 rounds next year. Meets needs of ELL students and struggling readers. Faculty figuring out how to support frustrational reading level as well as kids affective needs.

Discussion about collaboration around literacy throughout the building. Needs to address teaching strategies for handling various types of texts. For example, always know your author. Ask yourself, why am I reading this? Find your own purpose for reading a book.

Laura presented a new progressive idea about addressing different reading levels in the same class. "Text sets" are being introduced where a teacher will use a set of books with different reading levels to teach the same concept or skill. Hoping to pilot the program at BHS with the help of CU students. It is very time consuming and expensive, so this is why it is not more prevalent at this time.

Laura welcomes parents to contact her about any questions with the literacy dept. at BHS.

Kevin:

AP testing next week. In gym and around building. ACT testing was Wed. morning. ACT test is actually a version of CSAP for Juniors from the state. Leah asked why can't writing be included. State doesn't provide it due to cost.

Flood drill today. First time in a few years. Shannon Minch presented the concern about the soil condition. Everyone goes to higher floors.

Prom this weekend. After Prom still needs volunteers. Leanne raised thought to not have prom the weekend before AP testing. Kevin said this is going to happen next year anyways because AP is changing its scheduling to later in May.

National Honor Society induction tomorrow night.

Part-time teachers being available during TAP. Discussion happening about how to improve the situation.

Budget: Currently funded for 27.4 students/teacher. If state comes through with more \$\$, ratio will change to 26.9. Still waiting to hear. Will have parent meetings to announce final information.

Shared results from surveys from staff, parents and students. Of 58 questions on the student survey, only 3 questions went down and 18 went significantly up. Yeah. Heard from 27% of parents. Kevin was pleased with results.

Bell Schedule for next year: New hours! 8A -3:30P. District is emailing and calling families soon about wanting to know if student will ride the bus or not. Then bus schedules will hopefully change. Task force found that transportation is not the driving force to prevent the new bell schedule. The district will look into more RTD Passes.

Class schedule: still focused on a modified block. Trying to provide opportunities for individual instruction time. Going to discuss how to teach a 90 minute class effectively at the professional development day this week. Late start Wed. 9:00AM. Mon and Fri will be the regular schedule. Tues., Wed. and Thurs. will vary. Hasn't decided what days are going to be the modified block. Will have an evaluation at the end of the year to measure effectiveness of this new schedule.

And there you have it- another informative PAC meeting!