

Minutes from PAC meeting, Nov.

Introductions

Minutes approved

Mark Goulet, counselor – application season has begun, everyone is busy writing recommendations for seniors to various colleges (earlier this year than previous) CU's deadline is Jan 15, notorious for delaying, though

Crazy time on campus because of early semester ending

Intervention: taking freshmen with multiple Fs and putting them in study groups, teaching how to ask for help, use a planner, etc. Group will meet 5-8 times a semester after the first 6-week reports (go to study group instead of Freshman Seminar). Attendance has been biggest problem among freshmen.

Discussed Naviance program and application for various grade levels (Seniors for applying to colleges, Freshman are doing Learning Styles inventories, Sophomores are doing personality assessments, Juniors are starting college searches and scholarship opportunities)

Chris Wilson – Tutoring/ Ozone

Overview of services provided; 200 students are served each semester, discussed "Connections" program for students to recoup lost credits from missed classes. Ozone is in need of volunteers, esp. Science/Math/Spanish/French

Karyn: Highlights

Is there a way for parents to opt out of receiving this in hard copy and only get electronically (to save printing and mailing costs)? This will be a topic for the Jan. meeting. Suggestions: Include the costs of production in the registration forms to increase donations.

Ingrid – Treasurer

Tax forms were submitted.

Liz Halpern – Student Council

Adopt-A-Family now underway for the holidays, pledging to serve 52 kids from local families

Bake sale was huge success

Book drive in Jan – used books to be sent overseas

Dec Wed. AM TAP pancake breakfast for all students

Teacher appreciation – gave candy

Seniors working on Winter Ball – moved to Jan. because Model UN plans

Sr. class going to Nuggets game in Jan.

PAC Agenda Item – we need a policy on what we can support as a group, financially (Adopt-a-Family and other opportunities seeking assistance from us). How do we determine what should be supported by our donations?

Can there be a “community support fund?”

Bus Pass Ticket Prices – raising to \$30 in Jan; will have 10-ride passes available

Bud Jenkins – Principal

Discussed absence issue: after 5th unexcused absence, student is sent to Ozone to agree to a contract to serve hours in attempt to redeem grade - Kids drop out typically at end of 10th grade because by then the hole is so deep, they don't see a way out.

Encouraged all to visit cafeteria, new design, different arrangement, improved atmosphere.

Rosanna – Latino PAC: Push for Spanish-speaking content classes, has tried to implement since 2000, asked for support from PAC

Several members of Latino PAC expressed their wish to have one class per semester (content class) offered in Spanish.

Bud: the school community is not in agreement of what such a class would look like

LPAC is concerned about how to get approval, want PAC support because they believe we've been successful in implementing new programs. Karyn and Allie spoke to their newness to the positions and lack of direction on this.

Ingrid: PAC serves as the fundraising arm to support school activities; we've never gotten involved in political, classroom, or curriculum activities. PAC not set up to do this, we don't make recommendations to change school programs.

Zusu: wanted to better understand what would objections to such a class be

Angelique: InterCambio Community Communication – uses volunteers trained to teach English to non-native speakers. Wants to bring program to BHS and to recruit English speaking parents to volunteer to teach. 15 families have volunteered already following announcement in Highlights.

Ocial Guzman – LPAC President: students are disadvantaged grade-wise and needing physicals to participate in sports – he is speaking with the Athletic Director on how to help Spanish-speaking families work the system better including how and where to get physicals.

LPAC is requesting that the next counselor hired be bilingual and one who understands the culture

Karyn suggested that representatives from each PAC (PAC and LPAC) continue to participate in each other's meetings. Zusu is trying to attend both and serve in that capacity.

Bud: Parking Lot issue – there's been no response from community to help out