

JAMES BOWIE HIGH SCHOOL
Campus Advisory Council Meeting
December 1, 2009

Members in Attendance: Carolyn Merritt, William Reed, Amanda Campbell, Pat Bell, Douglas Jansen, Ashley Donahue, Tyler Gill, Karl Lauer, Steve Wand, Pasqual Piedfort,, Mary LaVeau, Steve Kane, Cyndi Harrison, Adrian Gonzales, Wendy Campbell, Bill Sheftall, Andrea Ramirez, Eileen Jones, Margery Warren, Susan Leos, Ray Grasshoff

1. Call to order – 7:30 AM.
2. Approval of minutes from November meeting will occur in January due to absence of CAC secretary.
3. No guests or citizen comments.
4. Principal's Report – Mr. Kane
Mini TAKS assessment for CAC members to see level of the questions asked.
Group discussed their “noticings and wonderings” about the exit level tests and questions. We discussed strategies for matching the objectives in class to those tested on the TAKS test. Are we teaching the content in a way that it mentally transfers for the students from the classroom to the tests?

Extra-curriculars going great this Fall:

- Band to Grand Nationals – did very well, 10th place in Nationals.
- Football team went farther in playoffs than they have ever gone before.
- Volleyball was in the 2nd round of playoffs.
- Girls' Cross Country won district.

CAC group looked at “dashboard” statistics for attendance and grades for the second six weeks. Attendance a strong point for Bowie, but state money is tied to attendance, and we can always improve. Discussion about two kinds of students failing classes and reasons for failing- those who don't do the work and those that can't. Bowie is looking at two different methods and systems to target those groups of students to better help them. Discussion ensued about how to identify the missing skills students might have. One goal is for common assessments to be able to give us some of this information when we get together to analyze the assessments. CAC discussed that parents need to be a part of the communication loop when their children are not learning the concepts or skills they need. Bowie is currently in the process of identifying learning gaps in students' skill sets, and communicating this to middle schools, especially in reading and in math.

5. Counselors Report – Pat Bell

PSAT results will be handed out in advisory classes during January. 90% of students have finished applying to ACC. Counselors are already leveling classes for the Spring semester. Naviance is available to help improve advisories and help students stay/get organized. Lecture series on careers is ongoing.

Naviance contains a student's GPA, rankings, where they applied to school, that kind of information. Naviance has all the files needed to work through signing up for career series, transcripts, resume writing, etc. It was acknowledged that we have computer availability issues for use during advisory times, and parents noted the need for our teachers to be strong advisory teachers/mentors for all grades.

6. CIP review – Reviewed 2nd 6 weeks dashboard during Principal's Remarks.

7. Campus Task Force – Construction has finished demolition and will soon start building Science rooms!

8. Advisory – Andrea Ramirez

Parents will be asked to come and talk to advisories about their careers, and Stephanie McGraw is forming a resource list for advisory teachers to utilize. For career talks traditionally, there has been a low turnout of parents, so they are making a more structured form to ensure parents are comfortable with the process and willing to participate. We are trying to keep small groups (15-30 students) for parents to work with at a time to maintain interest and class participation. Discussion about advisories communicating when they have guests coming and students from other advisories can also attend based on interest.

9. PTSA report -

PTSA is hosting a Staff Appreciation Lunch on Friday during both lunch periods. They are working on the list of possible speakers with Ms. McGraw. Student directories are available in the Kennel for those who ordered them. The Bowie Bulletin is now online, but a few hard copies still available in counselor's office. Our PTSA is now on Twitter! Dec 8th at 6:30 pm is the next PTSA meeting.

10. DAC - Pascal

The AISD budget process is progressing, prioritizing issues for funding. Parents on DAC persuaded calendar committee to make only a one year calendar instead of a two year calendar because parents want to increase the number of student days and reduce the number of professional development days. The 2010-2011 calendar is very similar to the one we use now. Calendar A was accepted, which is the one with 3 days holiday time for Thanksgiving 2010.

11. Old Business

AISD Strategic Plan was discussed at length during November, and concern was noted that the district plan did not seem to take into account Bowie's particular needs. Carolyn Merrit proposed that we consider a proposal to having a representative speak at Board meeting about strategic plan on December 14th. Mr. Kane noted that he believes the

Strategic Plan has been updated to reflect each campus's needs, so the concerns may already have been addressed.

The CAC's next Meeting has been moved to January 12th (2nd Tuesday).

Meeting concluded at 8:40 am.