

Minutes for James Bowie High School (JBHS)
March 2, 2011
Campus Advisory Council

Members Present: Susan Leos, Martha Anne Kuntz, Aaron Garcia, Stephanie McGraw, Carolyn Merritt, Ray Grasshoff, Kevin Wood, Steve Wand, Andrea Ramirez, Amanda Campbell, Cyndi Harrison, Eileen Jones, Karl Lauer, Steve Kane, Tyler Gill, Lisa Chatham, Bruce Dinkins, William Reed, Rose Ruffino.

1. Call to order at 7:34am by Tyler Gill, seconded

2. Approval of February minutes

All members approved minutes as given.

3. Introductions of Guests/ Citizen and Comments

Bruce Dinkins – 7 students from Bowie made the All State Band, which places them in the top one percent of band students in the state. More than 200 students in solo and ensemble contest are going to state competition.

Linda Thomas, future Bowie parent, came to listen to the CAC proceedings because she'll have a student at Bowie next year.

4. Next Meeting Location and Future Meeting Locations

TBA

5. AISD Facility Master Plan Update – Carolyn Merritt

The Facility Master Plan committee asked the School Board for acceptance of the report. Overall recommendations asked the Board to consider closing schools. According to MGT, and outside consulting firm, AISD has too many schools, and advised closing seven elementary schools and one middle school. The School Board decided to not close schools at this point. The Facility Master Plan committee also suggested a policy recommendation to work on vertical tracking between schools and the implementation of the existing transfer policy. The transfer policy has contributed to the over- and under-population problems seen in some Austin schools. The School Board will not address budget shortfall through consolidating schools this year.

6. Principal's Report – Mr. Kane

AISD Budget Update

Departments will not see a decrease in their budgets for next school year (2011-2012). The reduction in funds will come out of the office's funds for the year.

RIF (Reduction in Force)

From Bowie, we lost a total of 14 "slots" for next year. To determine the positions reduced, the Instructional Cabinet looked at numbers of students involved in each program and asked each department to identify where they could reduce within their department. As a school, we must offer all of the courses required for the recommended

graduation plan. Programs that are not on the recommended graduation plan were open to being reduced, based on the number of students involved. The Instructional Cabinet also considered equity between departments to account for the departments that have relatively fewer staff members to serve the same numbers of students. We are losing 14 “slots”, but not necessarily 14 people because we can absorb resignations. So far Bowie has had 3.5 resignations. Bowie did have to RIF (reduction in force) 10.5 positions.

For the students going into their second and third years of either Latin or German, there will be a phase out so that the students can meet their graduation requirements without having to change languages. There are several options still on the table as to how the students will be able to complete their foreign language. Bowie may be able to offer dual credit in those languages through ACC, or may also have teachers teach part time at Bowie and split between other campuses. There are also options to have video conference teachers or virtual classes online through TEA. The decision on delivery method for foreign languages will be made after the master schedule has been built for next year. German and Latin classes are phasing out; they are not being chopped completely for next school year.

Scheduling

Bowie will have to change the school schedule for 2011-2012. Teachers will teach one more section per year, moving from teaching 5 classes to 6 classes. We may go to block schedule, or still maintain a traditional schedule, or have creative schedules that meet the requirements. If we do not add the additional section for each teacher, then we will lose an additional 10 teachers for next year. Mr. Kane is waiting for clarification on what the sixth class has to look like before we move forward with determining the type of schedule for next year.

Agenda items 7-11 below were moved to the next meeting due to time constraints.

7. Counselor's Report
 8. District Advisory Council (DAC) Report
 9. PTSA Report
 10. Student Advisory and Student Mentor Updates
 11. New Business and Announcements
12. Meeting adjourned at 8:45.