

PRA SAC Meeting Minutes

August 2, 2007

Attendees: SAC Parents: Janelle Jones (Co-Chair), Debbie Goodiel (Recorder), Michael Phillips (SIT Coordinator)
Administration: Gary Stueven
Absent: Randy Richeson (DAC Rep), Michelle Hedge (Teacher Rep) Diana Bottoms-Simpson (Board Rep)

I. Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Meeting minutes approved for June 05, 2007.

II. Select Officers: J

The By-Laws indicate 3 elected parents, but there are 4 roles to be filled: Chair, Vice-Chair, Recorder, and DAC Representative. For PRA SAC we also have a Survey Improvement Team leader (S.I.T.). The 2007-2008 SAC consists of Gary Stueven (Admin) Janelle Jones (Co-Chair), Debbie Goodiel (Recorder), Randy Richeson (DAC Rep), Michael Phillips (SIT Coordinator), Michelle Hedge (Teacher Rep) Diana Bottoms-Simpson (Board Rep). There is still no Community member appointed. Gary will invite Ken Nolsh who ran for the board last year.

Gary to contact Ken Nolsh about serving as the SAC community member.

III. Board Update:

Diana is excited to serve on SAC. She has much interest in a curriculum committee. Diana has a son at PRA and she teaches at North Star and should have good insight for SAC.

- a) M.S. Document: Janelle presented the latest version that was recently presented to the Board. Janelle has some modifications to make related to changes that Bob and Gary made to the 2007-2008 M.S. programs based from SAC analysis, before disseminating to the general public.

Janelle to make changes to M.S. Document. Then the document will be available to the public.

For clarification, specials support core subjects. Electives can explore beyond and do not necessarily have to support the core subjects.

The Board asked SAC to communicate the document with 5th and 6th grade families.

SAC to target 5th and 6th grade families to receive M.S. Document.

- b) Curriculum Sub-committee: the M.S. Document should be referred to the Curriculum Committee for review and

consideration. The Board deferred to the SAC to define committee goals. Diana will head the Curriculum committee.

- c) Other: The Board would like SAC to look at the K-5 Spanish program.

The Board would like to know if some popular electives could be offered as after school programs.

IV. S.I.P.:

Gary will have “blanks” filled in and forwarded to SAC in a couple of weeks. He is waiting for teacher input for some items. It will be ready by the next SAC meeting for review. One of the goals is to increase the percent of students scoring proficient or advanced for CSAP and 60% or higher for NWEA.

Gary to forward SIP to SAC for review prior to next SAC meeting.

V. By-Laws Update:

Gary contacted Deb Novotny with the school district regarding the changes to the by-laws. She gave specific guidelines to clarify having a board member serve on SAC rather than a PTO member. Our changes should be fine. Janelle will forward the electronic copy to Gary to make the changes. Gary will e-mail Deb Novotny for approval. Deb Goodiel will sign the final copy and send it in.

Janelle to e-mail Gary the By-Laws.
Gary will make changes and e-mail Deb Novotny for approval.
Deb Goodiel will sign and send in.

VI. S.I.T. Update: Michael Phillips

The purpose of the survey could be presented at back to school night and/or put in the parent handbook. Gary will work with Gretchen to get the 2006-2007 Survey data presented and posted on the website, hopefully by the August 23rd Board meeting.

Michael is in the process of reviewing questions. SIT is scheduled to meet 9/10/07. Briefly discussed description of the survey and the new name, “PRA Needs Assessment”; Dr. Stueven said the term “Needs Assessment” would be appropriate.

Gary and Gretchen to get last year’s survey posted.

VII. Parent Night:

Parents Night/s: Discussed the concept of having a series of Parents’ Nights to focus on various long-range and/or informative and specific topics. The idea of communicating to parents our mission statement and core knowledge focus on excellence at each meeting was discussed. As an example, we discussed if parents better understood why middle school students have a challenging curriculum and expectations [solid preparation for high school], they would more readily embrace the demands. Michael suggested having former students return to give testimonials as to how PRA aptly prepared them high school.

We discussed holding the a parent night sometime in late September or early October and folding a middle school focus into high school preparation and graduation requirements vs. college entrance requirements. We briefly touched on including IB in the information night. Dr. Stueven said he could contact some one at the district to speak about Douglas County graduation requirements; and said we could possibly have someone on hand to discuss college entrance requirements for CU, CSU and UNC and pointed out parents need to take responsibility to discover the requirements of private institutions and/or out-of-state institutions, if they are considering such. “As a public school, it is our goal to fit [students] into the next public institution.”

Dr. Stueven to contact district to speak at parent night.

Dr. Stueven suggested preparing a flyer to solicit volunteers to work on the upcoming Parent Night.

Once date is set, parent night flyer and volunteers to be procured.

VIII. Safety:

We discussed the following safety measures:

- A) Full-time front desk (7 a.m. – 6 p.m.) person will be continued.
- B) Buzzer/Intercom (for the entrance) is going to be completed and used only when on lock-down.
- C) New Crosswalk: The administration is working to reorient parents as to the logistics of use. Dr. Stueven explained the speed reduction zone is activated by push button. The county covered the cost of the new crosswalk and PRA’s only expenditure (\$2,600) was in revamping the area that feeds to the crosswalk.

IX. Community Concerns:

- A) Parent Satisfaction Survey 2006-07 to be posted on SAC website by end of September
- B) Dr. Stueven will be meeting with prospective SAC community member Ken Nollsch.

The next regular SAC meeting is scheduled for September 6, 2007.