

Leadership Council Meeting Notes
January 11, 2007

Present: Kimberly, Brad, Ken, Annie, Flora, Jaime, Caren, Karen

CONSTITUENT REPORTS

Students: Kimberly hasn't noticed anything out of the ordinary. Notices students are more mellow now that break is over. Classes are much more interesting now – history research project, autobiography project in English, Prophet in Math, Spanish is becoming more hands on – catching on more quickly.

Update on Student leadership group at lunch – Kimberly went to only first meeting. About 25 people were present. Meeting focused on things to change about the school. Not sure if meetings are happening regularly.

Follow-up questions/discussions from group – Is leadership student-motivated or do they need an adult, recommendations about improving communication between leadership committee and student leadership, can we have a leadership “class” 2-3x/week? Too much for one person? Can we work together with Ms. Jordan in the student activities office? Adults interested in helping: Jackie, Jaime, Caren. Discussed FTE issues in creating leadership class;

Recommendation/Decision: Talk more about this and explore offering leadership class 0 or 7 period next year.

Parents: Brad hasn't gotten any email reports or been at meetings due to being gone in December. Not sure if minutes were taken at last parent meeting – will try to get them.

Faculty: Continuing to work on idea of graduation portfolio; came to some agreement about new school policy about giving information on what work students with Ds and Fs have completed (to student support team) so that they can work on how to help those students.

Data Subcommittee: Hard to compare to other schools – like apples & oranges, better to ask “what do we hope to learn” by comparing CPA to other schools (in bhs?).
Brad: Look at highest DF rate classes and compare CPA to other Small Schools

What other data besides grades can we look at?

Have we looked into attendance?

Important to connect it to equity goals?

Concern about multiple reasons why students obtain Ds & Fs and how to gather those variations. (e.g., attendance, not turning in work, failing tests, family issues)

Ken: do really deep thinking....

Morale-boosting data – how are students doing 1stQ, 2nd Q etc. and what are the positive changes?

Can't find this out thru data, but many students have life circumstances that prevent them

from completing homework, having good attendance. Any qualitative data we can gather? Even on a small group of students?

Brad: what is value/outcome of data?

Annie :Figuring out where to put resources, set up new structures

Kimberly: Keep students informed as to how they're doing – set an earlier time to talk with student about progress.

Whole School Outcomes Subcommittee: Working together to integrate habits of mind with last meeting's discussion of what do we want CPA students to know and do? Annie presented proposal which was positively received by the group and will be brought to staff, students and parents.

Brad: Would be helped by a concluding statement about why particular habits of mind chosen are relevant to CPA mission

Follow-up discussion: Clarification about meaning of "active engagement"; absence of explicit mention of empathy/how students learn to be with each other; some changes made; suggestion of addition of how students interact with each other, not decided on; more follow up and presentation to other CPA constituents.

Homework: Tabled for this meeting due to lack of time. Suggestion to develop a subcommittee to develop questions and bring back to group for next meeting.

Subcommittee volunteers: Flora, Karen and one student to be asked.

Grant: 10K from parent who originally intended to use money toward child's education, but then came to BHS wants to use money to improve academic climate/resources for CPA students.

1 Proposal from Annie & Susannah: bring Writer Coach connection back; they can't do it this spring, but they can come back next year. Will cost 18K.

2 grades – have mentors for students and relationships that can build over time

Some combination with BSEP funds

No guarantee that parent is going to fund this over time – may be one year only

Other suggestions:

Tutors

Invite other parents to contribute to those funds