

## **CPA Leadership Council Meeting Notes April 12, 2007**

### **Present:**

**Students:** Maria Marquez, Sylvia Morello, Kim Scott, Dariana Young  
**Teachers & Administration:** Jamie Knight, Caren Olson, Annie Johnston, Flora Russ  
**Parents:** Toby Furash, Karen Davis, Sandi Hunt  
**BAYSES:** Ken Yale

**Council Agreements:** The Council Agreements document was reviewed at the start of the meeting and all meeting participants agreed to abide by those agreements.

### **Constituent reports**

**Students:** Student leadership has been active in working to build community. The students are planning to sell hooded sweatshirts to CPA enrollees. There is an art contest underway to design the sweatshirt, with a deadline of April 27th. Designs should be submitted to Ms. Bell.

The student leadership has implemented a Birthday recognition program, which consists of a birthday card and piece of candy delivered to the person having a birthday. Because the program started well into the school year, they are catching up on birthdays that occurred before the start of the program.

The students will have teacher appreciation awards that will be distributed the last two weeks of the school year.

The leadership meetings have fewer attendees recently. The students believe the drop in attendance is a result of people needing to catch up on work, and work being more challenging at this time of year.

### **Parents:**

At the last Parent's council meeting the primary discussion topics were the AP classes and a presentation by two students on a proposal to do a fund raiser with a number of bands performing. Irma Parker volunteered at the Parent's Council meeting to work with the students to help make the event successful.

### **Teachers:**

The teachers are working to align department outcomes goals with whole school outcomes goals. Curriculum planning over the summer will be structured to advance the whole school outcomes goals. CPA teachers are collaborating with those of other small schools to address common issues. This curriculum development work is being funded by the School Governance body because they really want to support the small schools.

There will be no Advisory structure for next year for BHS. There is some money for planning the advisory program for the large school.

A survey was conducted of students to judge their interest in a computer tech class. Unsure if the class would conflict with other programs.

### **Current Business**

#### **Homework Subcommittee**

Caren Olson reported on the Homework Subcommittee efforts. She has had discussions with some students on what the issue to be addressed is and what support is needed. The definition of the problem/question is still unclear.

There was discussion that there is no real direct penalty for not doing homework and that many students copy other students' homework.

Suggestion that students interview students regarding why they don't do homework.

Is there any data on the correlation of kids doing homework and parent involvement.

Can there be a requirement that kids with poor grades be required to attend study hall.

Kim volunteered to interview other students. Jamie volunteered to help structure the interview questions.

Ken suggested a focus group approach that is more targeted at specific students who need to improve, and to broaden the discussion to include overall performance rather than just homework issues.

There was general consensus that the focus group approach would likely yield more useful results, and that the question should be broadened to overall school performance.

***Whole School Outcomes document:***

A revised Whole School Outcomes document was presented. The document incorporates achievement expectations into the Mission Statement, rather than being an outcome element. There was some modest editing of the Mission Statement to include the word "will" in the statements. With those edits, a vote was taken on the Mission Statement. The Statement was approved unanimously by those in attendance at the time.

A separate vote was taken on the remainder of the Whole School Outcomes document, and the document was approved unanimously by those in attendance at the time.

***Data Subcommittee:***

The school's Equity and Achievement goals were reviewed. Specifically, the Equity Goal is: 100% of students who enter CP Academy with math skills at basic level or below according to 8th grade STAR test scores will be able to meet the minimum (UC) college math requirement by the end of their senior year (successfully completing 3 years of high school math with a C or better). The Achievement Goal is: The average GPA of each grade level in the Academy will increase by 10% each year.

Ken presented data on the 1st semester grades and progress toward meeting the Achievement Goals. He first discussed what we are looking at and why, and reminded the attendees that there are two aspects to looking at data: 1) Technical, and 2) Emotional. Specifically related to the emotional reaction to looking at data, he noted that the purpose of data analysis is to understand, not to place blame for any results. It is important to maintain an inquiry stance. There is often a deeper story behind the numbers.

The analysis looks at the grades for students in CPA and BHS from the end of last year to the first semester of this year, and does not adjust for changes in enrolment (i.e., students who are newly enrolled in CPA this year, or students who transferred to other programs.) It may be appropriate to do an analysis of grades only for those students who were enrolled in CPA during both time periods.

The results show that at the mid-year point, most of the Achievement Goals are not being met, with the exception of a significant improvement in grades for 12th graders.

The table below shows the results that were presented:

## CPA Achievement Goal Progress

| Current grade level    | CPA students' GPA change from 05-06 Sem 2 to 06-07 Sem 1— all courses | BHS students' GPA change from 05-06 Sem 2 to 06-07 Sem 1— all courses | CPA students' GPA change from 05-06 Sem 2 to 06-07 Sem 1—academic courses only |
|------------------------|---|---|--|
| 10 <sup>th</sup> grade | - 8.9%<br>2.70 > 2.46   | -2.9%<br>2.76 > 2.68  | -11.7%<br>2.31 > 2.04  |
| 11 <sup>th</sup> grade | -3.1%<br>2.57 > 2.49  | +1.1%<br>2.80 > 2.83  | -7.0%<br>2.42 > 2.25   |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> grade | +2.1%<br>2.39 > 2.44  | +2.9%<br>2.74 > 2.82  | +25.8%<br>1.90 > 2.39  |

It is possible that students are taking more challenging classes, and that contributes to a drop in grades.

There was discussion of whether the Achievement Goal is the right one for the school, and whether other goals may be more appropriate.

For the Equity Goal, significant progress is being made. All 9th graders are now automatically enrolled in IMP2, and most are succeeding: 47 Freshmen were measured. For the 1st semester, 12 earned an "A", 9 earned a "B", 16 earned a "C", 7 earned a "D" and 3 earned an "F". For those scoring Basic and lower on their 8th grade STAR tests, 32 students were measured. Of those, 4 earned an "A", 7 earned a "B", 14 earned a "C", 7 earned a "D" and 2 earned an "F". Results were also presented for students with no CST data, and for students rated as "Proficient." The Proficient students were all graded A or B.

Additional analysis will be done when the 2nd semester grades are available.

### **New Business**

AP English Support Class  
Computer Technology Class  
New Senior Project Class

Annie stated that CPA is trying to incorporate more college level classes in high school. This is a way for students to get ahead and get college credit before graduating. Strong English skills are needed for graduation, same with Computer Technology. The Senior classes are intended to enhance the focus on community based careers and give another approach to completing the senior project. Several of the classes will be offered BHS-wide.

Computer Tech - currently have 18 students who expressed interest. Need 25 to be able to offer the class. Active advertising and promotion can likely increase the interest level and result in the necessary enrolment.

New Science class - Human Anatomy and Physiology, which will be an Honors class. Students who want to take Physics will do so in the Large School.

### **Closure:**

#### ***Process Report:***

Kim served as process observer. She remarked that everyone in attendance actively participated in the meeting and that it was one of the most productive meetings she has attended. The group came to closure on issues and didn't waste a lot of time on any one issue.

Next Meeting - will be May 3rd. The June meeting will need to be moved because the Senior Presentations will be held the night of the scheduled meeting (June 7th)