

Community Partnership Academy (CPA)
Monthly Parent Meeting
December 15, 2005

Rich Hemphill chaired a lively December CPA Parent Meeting last night, introducing and closing the evening's activities right on time. The meeting agenda and issues of concern proposed by parents and teachers were discussed at length giving everyone an opportunity to be heard. In the end, several action plans were developed as noted below.

Pot Luck-December 2, 2005: Rich reported that close to 100 people, representing over 35 families, attended the potluck with all grade levels equally represented. Beside the great assortment of dinner choices, door prizes, dancing and several community development activities were presented to enable families to feel comfortable and enjoy the party.

Fund Raising: Donations requested by the BHS Development Group fund raising letter are beginning to materialize and find their way to CPA coffers, as promised.

CPA Newsletter: The next newsletter will go to press in the beginning of January, before the next CPA meeting. Items for inclusion are the college-ready night announcement, progress reports and how families can help, other important up-coming dates, and an interview with Mr. Dopman.

Leadership Council: Mary MacDonald defined the Council's two tier Achievement Goal. The first tier is an overall Achievement Goal that seeks a 10% grade improvement when averaging all CPA students. The second tier, or the Equity Goal, targets those students who are unable to demonstrate improvement.

Outreach Calling Campaign: Attempts to reach families to update contact information and survey internet accessibility were conducted. Zeta Chen reported that 1/3 of the phone numbers were not valid, however, numerous families contacted did ask for volunteer opportunities these will be followed up by Rich Hemphill. In addition, teachers will attempt to obtain current family contact information from their students during class time.

An interesting note: Rich also reported he recently learned that our elected officials, Barbara Lee and Loni Hancock, are unaware that BHS's CPA exists.

College Admission Night-On Track to Graduation: Irma Parker discussed plans for a college-ready seminar to be held for families addressing how high school students should design a 4 year college plan.

Writing Expectations for Parents: Sandy Calvo introduced the idea of creating a model for CPA families which would include tips and ideas for supporting students from home, i.e., homework tips, school volunteering, staying in touch with school staff, etc.

Progress Reports: Again, progress reports reflect what teachers already know: students do not complete and submit their homework. Especially evident is the lack of completed work packets in lab science. One idea is to create a "packet party" where students meet to complete their work while eating pizza after school. Flora Russ to investigate that possibility.

The next Parent Meeting is January 19, 2006.

