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**OUR MISSION IS STUDENT SUCCESS...ACADEMIC, ARTISTIC, AND HUMANISTIC**

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SBPT Minutes – August 25, 2009

Present: L Kasdin, B. Pacheco, S. Dorsey, E. Francesco, M. Gamzon, K. Larsen, S. Woodhams, N. Branca, J. Markman, K. Nicastro, J. Tillotson, P. Koch, D. Keller

Absent: E. Lamb, T. Hawkins

1. First day of School is September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Staffing is still in progress. We have several vacancies to fill including a second academy director and vocal teacher. We will not have a reading teacher this year. Reading and English will be taught as a block. Our English curriculum will include Springboard this year. Laura Ferris is taking on the Out of Class Suspension responsibilities, Maria Mendicino has been reinstated, Stefan Cohen is only teaching 2 classes as he has accepted a position to work downtown. Marc Dellagloria is back for math, Liz Ristow for strings, Daniel Lauritzson for music and Anna Zydowicz for ballet. We have hired a new Spanish teacher and attendance clerk. We are down a sentry and 2 accompanists. Other positions have gone to part-time and there has been some movement as to the location of certain staff members in the building including our Hillside staff who will now share a suite with Larry DeBellis. We have two building substitutes this year. They may be in use when school opens.

Until the hiring of a new academy director, Jeannie will supervise the science department, Kwame, the social studies department and Brian, the language department.

2. Building Issues:

Website – the district removed our website as it was last year. Kathleen Eisenberg has arranged for us to have a temporary site until something else becomes permanent with the district.

Building is almost ready to go: there are things left to do in the gym, flooding from rain has to be repaired, the creative writing lab computers are here...\$15,000 -\$40,000 was spent to upgrade computers. SOTA is now being used as a computer-training site for the district. Training continues for Smartboard users. Locker assignments are being finalized with Mr. Tirre. It is the hope that no students will be required to share a locker. Library books are being returned; math texts are here although much has to be done to keep up with the new math curriculum.

7/8 grade schedules have been printed. 9-12 grade schedules are being tweaked at this time. All schedules, information sheets and a parent letter will be mailed August 27<sup>th</sup>. Our enrollment is currently at 1178. We are slated for 1180.

Staff will be asked again to assign themselves a spot in the morning as students enter the building.

3. Calendar:

Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup> – teachers report: 8:30 breakfast, 8:50 faculty meeting, 9-10:15 business, introductions etc. 30 minute Foundation and Commencement Academy meeting, department meetings, lunch and then professional time to prepare for the opening of school. Brenda encourages all to review our SOTA handbook.

1<sup>st</sup> day of school will run as usual...no extended homeroom.

9/23/09 – Curriculum Night 6:30 – 8:30

4. Other:

Lunch – Juniors and Seniors may leave the building. They will have an exit card with a color-coded sticker. They will leave the card with the sentry until they return. Administrators will pick up cards for all students who are late returning from lunch. These students will not be able to leave the building the next day. Lost cards can be replaced in the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor office.

Buses – must have an ID to ride the bus. There are still two bus dismissals this year.

No anti-tardy policy anymore.

Textbooks need to be returned to Darryl Bittle. Payment plans are available for lost books. There will be library stickers on textbooks this year.

We are sharing our nurse, Chris Proctor, this year with another school. Janelle Piott will cover for her when she's not here. Janelle was here last year as well.

PA announcements will continue each morning at 8:20am and we are continuing the word and phrase of the week.

\$ - none – fundraisers are possible...especially for seniors.

5. National Honor Society – we discussed switching from using a student's unweighted GPA to using their weighted GPA. Jim and Kelly are going to investigate this issue along with NHS criteria and we will discuss it again at our next meeting.

6. Community Service – Joanne Aspenleiter is the primary contact for community service along with our social studies teachers. We are now asking juniors to complete 10 of the 20 required hours before purchasing prom tickets. Seniors have to have all 20 completed before prom. Joanne has created partnerships with several agencies willing and anxious to have our students get involved in their programs. Some concerns arose including transportation to these agencies, specifically on weekends. Other things to determine are whether to accept "in-school" activities, church related activities and tutoring as acceptable community service projects. We also talked about whether to include the community service projects as part of the actual PIG final grade.

7. Future meeting dates: 9/17/09, 10/15/09, 11/12/09, 12/10/09, 1/21/10, 2/11/10, 3/11/10, 4/15/10, 5/13/10, 6/10/10. All meetings are scheduled from 4:30-6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:43pm.

Next Meeting: 9/17/09 at 4:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Lisa Kasdin  
Secretary, SBPT

