



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

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SBPT Minutes – October 15, 2009

Present: E. Lamb, K. Larsen, M. Gamzon, J. Tillotson, T. Hawkins, J. Markman, K. Walker, P. Koch, B. Pacheco, N. Branca, S. Woodhams, L. Kasdin, P. Balonon-Rosen, C. DeBaise, E. Bond, E. Francesco, P. Marshall-Hallmark, E. Rebholz

Guest: C. Marshall

Absent: K. Nicastro, S. Dorsey, K. J. Aspenleiter

1. September Minutes were revised and Approved
2. Debbi Keller resigned from SBPT. Kristin Larsen is now on the team in an administrative capacity
3. Honors/AP courses – teachers, both academic and art, need to have specific criteria before recommending students for advanced classes. SBPT has the authority to put this in place in terms of scheduling and grading procedures. There have been concerns about students registering for Honors/AP courses and then dropping. AP Chemistry started with 21 students and is down to 7. There are also students who want to take the course but not sit for the exam. We are investigating this policy. A committee has been formed under the direction of Kelly Nicastro to discuss access to upper level courses. There are many scheduling implications when students change their minds after staffing and classes have been set. The committee's charge is to establish some guidelines and revisit our policy that has been challenged this year by some parents and Central Office. The committee will report back to SBPT.
4. Midterms – 7th and 8th graders will follow a regular schedule. They will take their midterms during class during exam week. 9th-12th grade exams and 8th grade honors exams will occur during exam week as usual. Teachers are creating their own exams. The deadline for completion is December 1st. All copying will be done in the building. The exception to this is regents exams.
5. PSAT day, October 14th – seniors went to the Total Sports Experience for a career/college day. 9th graders took a career inventory and watched a movie (Freedom Writers). 10th and 11th graders took the PSAT. 7th and 8th graders went roller-skating. The biggest issue was the new field trip permission forms, which are 4 pages long and difficult to understand. Some students couldn't participate in their activity because they didn't turn in a form. SBPT can modify the form for future events. Additionally, the superintendent denied one field trip. Elaine F. has already inquired with legal about this issue. A subcommittee will be formed to address the field trip situation.

6. Heritage Music Trip – there has been a major turnover of staff in our music department. The music trip is considered an extracurricular activity, which will involve a much smaller group of kids this year. Strings and vocal students will not be attending.
7. Introduction of Kristin Larsen as our new 9/10 administrator. Chris Moynihan has taken over the position of AVID Coordinator.
8. School of Choice Open House is scheduled for November 4th.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:35pm.

Next Meeting Date: November 12, 2009

Respectfully Submitted by:

Lisa Kasdin
Secretary, SBPT