

School Advisory Council

Cypress Lake High School

September 29, 2014

Call to Order: 6:30 pm

Attendees: See Attached List

1. Principal Roles called the meeting to order. Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved by the SAC.
2. Ms. Roles introduced Mrs. Gair, the School Improvement Plan (SIP) coordinator. She explained that one of the requirements of SIP is to get a School Advisory Council established for the year.
 - a. Rubin Irizarry was elected chairman of the SAC for SY 2014-2015.
 - b. Gina Gyure was elected to be secretary of the SAC for the year.
 - c. District Advisory Council representatives were elected: Gina Gyure will be the representative and Lisa Heidrick will be the alternate.
3. Mrs. Gair presented information on the School Improvement Plan (SIP).
 - a. She explained in detail how the School Improvement Goal SY2014-15 was derived and prepared: 10% of the number of students that didn't pass is added to the number of students that passed to get the new goal.
 - b. Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) continue to be used to support teaching practices and strategies.
 - i. The required Wednesday PLC meetings last about an hour and are where teachers discuss barriers working against improvement and strategies to address these barriers. It is an opportunity for teachers to share what works and what doesn't, and learn from each other.
 - ii. The goals will be monitored and measured throughout the year by administration and PLC leadership teams; barriers and strategies will be revised accordingly to ensure student success.
 - c. Writing tests are extended to 11th grade – not sure if it affects graduation for students who already passed the writing test in 10th grade.
 - d. The new School Accountability Plan was approved unanimously by the SAC and is available at this link:
ADD HYPERLINK HERE
4. School Improvement Funds: Ms. Roles described the tentative budget for SY 14-15. The budget is approximately \$15200 to \$15300 and is based on FTE Surveys 2 & 3 (October and February.)
 - a. The areas covered are Academic Tutoring, Professional Development, and Miscellaneous Expenses for Instructional Programs.
 - b. A motion was made and seconded to approve the School Improvement Funds budget. The motion was passed unanimously by the SAC.
5. The DAC report from the first DAC meeting of September 17, 2014 was presented by Dr. Hromiak and Gina Gyure who had attended on behalf of the school. The reports are attached.
 - a. One of the topics at the DAC meeting was limiting the ability to switch schools during the senior year. Upon discussion at this SAC meeting, a parent expressed concern about fairness – he felt that a student should be able to graduate from the school he/she wants to graduate from. This will be brought back to the DAC meeting in October.
 - b. Ms. Thimlar addressed the proposal to streamline the various programs in the district including the Arts auditions. She felt the district respected her opinions/Cypresses opinions as to how best handle the goals of fairness, equity, consistency, transparency, and program viability. She explained that some things will change (i.e. how the school is notified of students choosing the Arts program) but that autonomy in auditions etc., will still be with the schools. She seems comfortable with the District proposal.

- c. DAC meetings are public and can be viewed after the fact at the district website:
<http://www.leeschools.net/board/committees/dac/welcome.htm>

6. Ms. Roles introduced the Vice Principals (administrative staff) and each discussed their areas of responsibility at Cypress.
7. Ms. Prieto presented information about an initiative called “AP Capstone.” It is a voluntary additional component to the AP Academy students. (The teacher-driven AP Academy was started 2 years ago as a way to give students more challenging and in depth work.) It is not offered to current juniors and seniors since it requires courses spanning two years but not yet offered at Cypress. Students fulfilling the requirements will graduate with a special Capstone Diploma or Certificate depending on their level of achievement. This program will not change the current AP Scholars Honors certificates offered by the College Board. It is just an enhancement.
8. Mrs. Gair and Ms. Thimlar shared with us the success of “Whet Your Appetite” held by the Center for the Arts as its 20th Anniversary Celebration kickoff event. The event even included performances by talented alumni working in their field. “The place was packed!” They presented the “Calendar of Events” for 2014-2015 and it is jam-packed with programming!
9. Homecoming Week will be Monday, October 13 through Saturday, October 18 with various activities held throughout the week, culminating with Friday night’s football game and Saturday’s dance.
10. Finally, at the conclusion of the meeting, the SAC participated in “Core Values – Input for District Strategic Plan” where the council broke into groups and selected values they would like to see the School District enhance.
11. The next meeting of the SAC will be November 17th at 6:30 pm in the Media Center, with meetings also scheduled for March 2nd and May 4th for a total of 4 meetings this year.

Adjourned: 7:45 pm