

Wilson High School

Site Council Agenda

January 13, 2015

Attendees: Amy Durham, Amy Feller, Ariana Ward, Brian Chatard, Karla Wenzel, Lisa Sloan Megan Meisner, Rodney Maack, William Boly, Cari Bacon Flick, Megan Meisner, Ayesha Freeman, Jamie Suehiro, Estee Emlen, James Rutledge-Gorman, Teresa Graham

At Wilson High School, our mission is to educate young people in every capacity -- mind, body and spirit. We prepare students to succeed in their various roles in society: as workers who are responsible, innovative and ready to compete at a world-class level; as citizens who are both loyal to our community's democratic ideals and committed to the on-going work of forming a more perfect union in our heterogeneous society; and as adults who, in their private lives, balance the virtues of individualism, such as self-reliance, honesty, and personal initiative, with the cooperative ideals of justice, tolerance and compassion. In short, our goal is to foster in our students the core intellectual capacities and habits of the heart that will allow them to lead deeply engaged, productive and meaningful lives.

District Milestones for High Schools

1. 9th Grade – on track (6 credits- core classes)
2. On-time graduation

PPS Priorities for 2014-2015

1. Third Grade Reading
2. Closing the gap for suspensions/expulsions for students of color
3. High School Graduation

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Approval of last meeting's minutes
3. Old Business:
 - a. Work on February Parent information night for Smarter Balance assessments
 - i. 6:30 pm, Wednesday February 4
 - ii. Agenda (Aisha & Cari)

Discussion of Parent Forum

- PPS will be mailing out an informative mailing to parents about a week before the parent forum
- Brian: other things competing for student time.
- Importance to give context for the student. Not encouraging kids to study for it. There is no way to study for it.
- Ayesha—give parents an opportunity to try a test question.
 - Students are not given time limit for computer based test: takes about 2 hours for math, 2 hours for language arts. Students would do it in language arts class. Trying to

figure out how to have students do the math part since students are in all kinds of math classes.

- Computer based test: multiple choice for language arts and math. Then another part where teachers have to do a class activity on some subject (30 minutes) then students go back online and are assessed through a performance activity on what learned in the class activity.
 - Example: lesson on ecosystem. What happens to the water cycle. Question (text based argument) – given texts, articles on issues, then asked questions on articles—central claim of each one, analyze the evidence, make an evidence based chart, what evidence best supports A, best supports B. Mini researched argument on water cycle.
 - Helping kids to get ready for the test—vocabulary: example: claim or assumption.
 - How it is graded is interesting. SBA is seeking out people to read these and score—preference for teacher but not required. Why couldn't this be school based, scored by teacher?
- Language arts teacher from Hawaii—has experience with SBA. In Hawaii, it is tied to teacher pay—teacher by teacher at the elementary level. Kids know it is not tied into graduation so not taken seriously by students. Experience was in large title 1 school in Oahu. Lots of resources in her Hawaii school to prepare professional development for teachers to get familiar with test and then to prepare the students. Piloted the language arts part of the test. Hawaii school did not get any feedback.
- Brian: long arduous computer based test. Questions are structured differently.
- Cari: Discuss known risks when talk with parents.
- What are some of the rumors and myths?
 - Students: unaware or at other end of spectrum—time consuming, big test, frustrated.
 - Helpful for students/parents:
 - What do students have to score to not have this count for graduation? PSAT? ACT?
 - Opt out: recognized disability and inappropriate exam or religious objection or reason not to be subject to standardized testing--in writing to principal.
 - Is there an impact on the school for opt outs? There is a participation score. If low, then overall school rating is lower. If drop due to participation, then could drop to “2” and that has implications for Wilson’s reputation.
 - Taking away from instructional time. How will other teachers respond to this? If true: staff agree not to have demanding assignments due at same time.
 - Not designed as a learning experience. It is to rate districts and systems.
 - What about math portion outside the school day? Every junior is in an English class. Can get it done within a week or two. But for math, how to reteach kids a lesson that you had because it is mostly sophomore class and a few juniors missing. Hawaii—do it by alphabetical for kids and pull them out and notify teachers of kids getting pulled out.
 - b. Update on conferences feedback survey for parents/students? Not going to be useful; not going to pursue this.

4. New Business:

- a. Other business – from the floor
- b. Potential additional meetings in February & March to support development of 2015-2016 School Improvement plan (Brian)

Opportunities to assist with school improvement plan: When Brian has put together draft, would like to use this group in February/March. Takes more than 90 minutes a month to have input into governance and the improvement plan. What can we accomplish? What are we supposed to accomplish? Hope that next school year that the site council would be populated by department liaisons, compensated to do the work (teachers) during the day with colleagues but also paid to come to discuss with stakeholders. Teachers should be compensated and this should be meaningful. Indistar dynamics discussed: ODOE directed. Internal committee worked through the indicators. Does not really connect with WHS. Brian: how to put that in a meaningful way and impact breadth of resources and activities at the school. Stem it from the school district's priorities which are broad enough that many things meet them—increase graduation rate is #1. Brian has goals that he wrote—use those and align with school improvement plan- these already tie to district priorities. This group could assist in input related to resources to achieve goals.

Focus on this for February meeting.

Try to rebrand from school improvement plan which reflects deficit thinking.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 10, 2015, 3:30-5:00 pm.

- a. Indistar – School Improvement Plan tool – Brian
- b. WHS Site Council Work Plan update – Cari