

Akins Campus Advisory Council Minutes
December 3, 2014

Members Present:

Cullen Haskins
Patty Bouranis
Deborah Hoover
Jacob Hoover

Melissa Royer
Daniel Girard
Henry Perez
Maggie Wagner

Bryan Wagner
Shawn Mena
Lisa Beach

Call to Order:

Cullen Haskins called the meeting to order at 6:03

Minutes:

Upon motion by Deborah Hoover, seconded by Henry Perez, the minutes were approved as presented.

Reports:

- **Principal's report:**

Staffing - We have hired a teacher from Sylvan learning center to take over the Math position and they will be starting before the break. The science special education position has also been filled by the long term sub that was filling in for the vacancy. There is one remaining vacancy to be filled in the English department, a new teacher will be leaving during the Christmas break. There are two strong interns at this time that are viable candidates and they will soon be starting the interview process.

MOY - Each department is going through the information we recently received from the MOY that took place at the beginning of November. The MOY is a good predictor of how students will do on their EOC. The school will use the data to find areas that students are deficient in and focus on these areas in the classroom. The school also uses the data to compare self to self, self to standard, and self to others.

STAAR EOC Re-Testers - This week we have been administering EOC retakes. English I and English II were the areas of highest need. With the new combined test about 100 students for English I and 70 for English II needed to re-take the exam. STAAR camps were held before the administration of the test to help students practice skills before the test.

Discipline – Discipline numbers are higher this year than they have been previously but in retrospect in years prior the numbers have been very low. Students who are removed due to discretionary reasons is still low but there have, however, been a high number of students who are disruptions in the class and are removed for to ISS.

Vertical Team Visit – Once a year the vertical team (consisting of elementary and middle schools who feed into Akins) come to give feedback. Other principals came and saw amazing teaching going on in the classroom. Reviews were very validating.

REACH – Teachers received the final word on the stipend from last year’s basket of measures in which we met all 4 areas. Compensation will be added to payroll at the end of December. The final area in which we were waiting for confirmation was confirmed which states that students who are sent to Akins grow academically by a year’s worth. With the results from TEA being finalized it showed that Akins had the most growth out of other high schools with student’s surpassing the year growth target and growing additional years academically.

Professional Development – Ms. Mena discussed the climate survey results from last year and how the PD focused on this area. During the PD the retreat with the admin team was discussed and the practices were brought back to campus. Another climate survey was administered earlier this year during late start and the results where good. During the PD staff focused on building teams and also reviewed the recent climate survey results as a campus. Each area was laid out and how we discussed how they are being addressed holistically. Teams were created with the help of Jeanie McGough by creating groups who aren’t usually set together which helped to bring better communication within the school. Following this teachers have approached Ms. Mena about the areas that still need to be worked on which will continue to be a focus on PD days. It was a very positive day.

Mr. Girard discussed how the UT leadership team came down and went out to survey the climate not only in the school but in the community and the results were also positive.

BTEN - (Beginning teacher evaluation network) Results from the most recent survey in stated that October 95% of teachers felt satisfied and engaged. In November 91% said they received valuable feedback on teaching. November 91% said feedbackers where helping to try and improve their teaching.

Parent Support specialist was finally hired.

Dual Credit and FAFSA – 97% college application rate so far for our seniors. A new test to qualify for dual credit was created but it was very

difficult to pass but by looking at EOC passing rates there were more students who were able to qualify for the program. FAFSA will occur in the spring.

Mr. Wagner asked a question in regards to the discipline problems that have arose with the incoming freshman and how these particular students were brought in from the middle school and not held back if they were not successful previously. Mr. Girard addressed this and explained that many of these students were brought on and once they are registered in Akins they are then our responsibility.

Mr. Girard explained that a new teacher unit will be created here to address the 25-30 kids who are manipulating a lot of the admin teams time. A teacher will be hired who will be in charge of these 25-30 students and have class in a room with computers. The students will be signed up for Garza online as the students are not successful in a regular classroom setting.

A question was asked about the discipline in the classroom. Mr. Haskins explained that our discipline in the classroom is always supported by admin. Admin supports teacher's decisions when a student needs to be removed. Henry Perez explained the process for removing students with discipline problems in the room, a notification is sent to the office and then removal to ISS. Students who have habitual behavior problems are placed in ISS until a parent can arrive and the parents are informed that they will continually be involved in any behavior issue that arises. Deborah Hoover asked if the majority of the problematic students came from the schools that addressed these behavior concerns. Mr. Girard explained the records we received do not contain this information.

Ms. Wagner asked what rezoning was occurring, Mr. Girard explained that no new information was available.

Lip Dub – Kenyatta Williams explained that this was student initiated and run. The lip dub was a lip synching project in which the whole school participated by singing a song. It was a huge boost for school spirit and many students participated.

DAC – No report

Student Organizations – No representative was present

Report of the Academies –

ABLLE – Criminal justice is in 10th year and has progressed way beyond expectations and have had the opportunity to intern at the Travis County Sheriff's office. The newest program that will launch next year is the Legal Eagle program in which students will receive training for a licensed attorney and be able to shadow lawyers in the courtroom.

Green Tech – This Friday the pet clinic is coming up, which runs every A day Friday. The park ranger students are working side by side with official park rangers. A new project started working with the Jackson school of geology, trying to develop an oil and gas internship.

AHA – High school musical production will be running over the week. Mexicarte museum will be on campus on Friday to offer apprentices for screen printing.

Social Services – TFE regional conference at Texas State, won many awards and received honors. This is the period of time when health professions students are wearing their scrubs and are going out to intern, they also must represent the program in the classroom by being dressed professionally. During this time of year teachers who have practicums are starting to work with students on the interview process to get into the program which will start in the Spring.

PTSA – Next Tuesday is the December meeting, which will be a potluck. Teachers can now sign up and pay online.

Public Comments:

Deborah Hoover took over the meeting while Cullen Haskins addressed some public comments. Haskins reported on the EOC US History retesters with 37 students who did not pass their STAAR which is a graduation requirement. These students have been pulled during their advisory time which served as a study hall. Haskins and the other history teachers took the students and focused on certain areas (WWII and Civil Rights). Students also participated in extra test practice during tutoring and Saturday school.

Haskins discussed the seniors in Government class and how earlier this year they were able to meet candidates running for public council from Dove Springs. Now students are participating in a mock congress where they had to write a bill and see if they got passed. They have also created a mock supreme court and is going through what a supreme court case looks like.

Del Valle correctional interns were given a good review by a parent who works there and was very impressed.

Maggie Wagner addressed the health science interns and how their uniforms have helped the students look and act the part.

Unfinished Business:

No unfinished business was presented.

Adjournment: Upon motion of Maggie Wagner, seconded by Kenyatta Williams, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.