

**Academic Choice Advisory Council (ACAC) Meeting
October 4 2013, 7:30 – 8:35 AM BHS room C317
Minutes**

In Attendance:

Who	Role	E-mail address
Tim Zolezzi	ACAC Chair and AC Lead History Teacher	timothyzolezzi@berkeley.net
Matt Laurel	AC Lead English Teacher	matthewlaurel@berkeley.net
Ben Sanoff	AC Teacher Coordinator	bensanoff@berkeley.net
Vernon Walton	AC Vice Principal	vernonwalton@berkeley.net
Barbara Anscher	Parent rep, Student Support	barbaraanscher@gmail.com
Jeremy Thorner	Parent rep	jthorner@berkeley.edu
Francesca Verdier	Parent rep, Secretary	francesca.verdier@gmail.com
Olga Volodina	Parent rep, Treasurer	olga-volodina@sbcglobal.net
Randi Boorstein	AC parent, Liaison to Berkeley High School Development Group	randiboorstein@gmail.com
Evelyn Enciso	AC Student	evey2396@gmail.com
Quinn Gaebler	AC student	quinngaebler@students.berkeley.net
Sophia Jimenez	AC Student	jiminez.sophie5@gmail.com
James Stoner	AC Student	jamesstoner@students.berkeley.net
Sam Arriola	AC parent	sarriola@gmail.com
Catherine Ference	AC parent	candsfer@gmail.com
Peter Geraghty	AC parent	
Denise Kidder	AC parent	denisekidder@gmail.com
Rene Kvideehl	AC parent	
Heather Loucks	AC parent	
Johanna Reneke	AC parent	j.reneke@gmail.com

Fundraising Mailing Party

Francesca Verdier will coordinate the mailing party, and buy envelopes, labels and stamps. Jeremy Thorner will write and make copies of the flyers. Lenore Goldman, Heather Loucks, and Olga Volodina will assist at the mailing party, to be held at Heather's house.

UC Berkeley Community Grant

Ben Sanoff plans to apply for a UC Berkeley Community Grant. There needs to be a compelling statement that shows a relationship between AC and UC Berkeley. Does anyone know UC faculty, especially in the education department? Ben will contact Hilary Hoynes. There is an informational meeting October 30 – the AC community is invited to attend. Contact Ben for more information. Jeremy Thorner volunteered to help with the grant application.

AC Fall Meeting

Will take place Wednesday October 23, from 7:00 – 8:30 PM in the BHS library.

Topics will cover:

- One teacher rep from the 4 departments (English, History, Math, Science) will address how the common core affects the courses in their department
- Counseling services
- Course progressions
- Student experiences
- AP Gov and the AP program in general; FAQs on AP
- Electives
- How AC works and why it's a great program
- Financial report
- Student support

Vernon Walton will do a robo call to remind parents of the October 23rd date. Francesca to post to the etrees and Ben and Jeremy will do a targeted parent emailing.

English Reader Proposal

For the past 7 years ACAC has funded readers for history research papers. Last year for the first time there was a reader for AP language and composition, which allowed these students to write 2 to 3 times more papers than previously. This year AC would like to have a joint reader program for History and English, with \$4,000 budgeted for each.

For English we will start with the 11th grade, which is the most important year for fine tuning English writing skills. To give students the opportunity to write more, teachers need assistance in reading and grading papers and providing feedback. Readers will allow this. We will alternate between teacher and reader grading. Both teachers and readers will use a common grading rubric.

In future years we would like to have English readers for the 9th and 10th grades in addition to the 11th grade.

Parents expressed concerns that \$4,000 might not be enough to cover the needs in either History or English. We may need to reassess the budget at a future ACAC meeting.

It seems that the reader approach works better than Writer Coach Connection – because the teachers train the readers and work closely with them.

Vote: \$8,000 for UC readers. Passed unanimously.

Next ACAC Meeting

Friday November 1, 2013, 7:30 – 8:35 a.m. in BHS room C317.