

**4/10/15 Academic Choice Advisory Council (ACAC) Meeting**  
**April 10, 2015, 7:30-8:35 AM Berkeley High School Conference Room D**

**Minutes**

**In Attendance:**

| <b>Who</b>        | <b>Role</b>                             | <b>E-mail address</b>                  |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Tim Zolezzi       | AC Co-Chair and AC Lead History Teacher | timothyzolezzi@berkeley.net            |
| Daniel Nube       | AC Vice Principal                       | danielnube@berkeley.net                |
| Hannalina Kalonji | ACAC Student Representative             | hannalinakalonji@students.berkeley.net |
| Sam Arriola       | AC Parent                               | sarriola@gmail.com                     |
| Johanna Reneke    | ACAC Parent Rep at Large                | j.reneke@gmail.com                     |
| Donna Storey      | ACAC Secretary                          | donnageorgestorey@gmail.com            |
| Jeremy Thorner    | ACAC Student Support Coordinator        | jthorner@berkeley.edu                  |

**Public Comments**

There were no public comments at this meeting.

**General AC Spring Parent Feedback Night on April 21, 2015**

The AC Spring General Meeting will be held on April 21 at 6:30 in the College Career Center. Mr. Zolezzi distributed a handout developed by the AC leadership (Mr. Zolezzi, Mr. Laurel and VP Nube).

The objectives of the meeting are: 1) to promote understanding of issues/decisions faced by Academic Choice, and solicit feedback from parents concerning these issues/decisions; and 2) make parents feel as if they are part of the Academic Choice community.

Parents would divide themselves into small groups, discuss the issues and type their feedback into a Google doc on laptops provided. After self-introductions, parents would be asked to consider options for AP classes moving forward. The three options are to move toward an "All AP" model for junior English, remain with the current model of requiring every student take one AP class of his/her choice, or move away from an AP model toward a rigorous "Junior English." Other topics for discussion would be AC fundraising and the election of ACAC officers for the 2015-2016 school

year. Jeremy Thorner volunteered to speak for the ACAC parents to encourage fundraising efforts and recruit new parent members for next year.

### **Student Report on AC Freshman Picnic, AC T-shirts, Stoles**

Student representative Hannalina Kalonji reported that the AC Student Leadership was going to set a date for the freshman picnic with VP Nube. The picnic would likely be held in the courtyard in front of the Community Theatre instead of on the athletic field because clean up of the field was very difficult after last year's freshman picnic.

Jeremy Thorner mentioned that he had received picnic supplies from a former ACAC officer that could be used for this year's picnic. Mr. Zolezzi offered to store the supplies in a closet in the science office.

Ms. Kalonji said the student leadership decided they did not have enough time to produce a T-shirt this year. Jeremy Thorner proposed that an art teacher take over the T-shirt project for next year. Mr. Zolezzi expressed support for creating an AC T-shirt next year.

Ms. Kalonji also presented a student-approved design for the graduation stoles for the class of 2015. Donna Storey will be placing an order for the stoles (for 287 seniors).

### **Explanation of AC Student Leadership Process**

Mr. Thorner and Mr. Zolezzi asked Ms. Kalonji how the ACAC Student Representatives are chosen for the coming year. She said that she and Finn Collum have worked together for the past few years to establish an AC Leadership Committee. Students submit an application and are interviewed by the current committee in order to join. The committee is advertised to AC students through classroom presentations and applications available in AC teachers' rooms. The ACAC Student Representatives are chosen each year by election of the committee.

### **Proposal to Use BHSDG Model for ACAC Funding Requests**

Donna Storey passed out copies of the Berkeley High Development Group's grant application form and proposed that the ACAC adopt a similar process for considering funding requests through a standardized written application submitted in advance.

VP Nube agreed it is a good idea and that we should customize the application for AC's specific needs. He suggested we cut the need for the administrator's signature, since he would always approve an applicant's right to request funds, even if the funds were eventually denied. Sam Arriola thought we should provide a filter for the types of requests we would not support. Mr. Zolezzi suggested we come up with a public rubric for how funding decisions are made. VP Nube said that one important aspect is establishing a measure of success for the proposed project. The applicant should thus show a direct or indirect link between the program and student achievement or social and emotional health, outline the way they would measure the success of the program and state how many students would be served by the program.

Mr. Zolezzi and VP Nube offered to present a revised AC-specific application form at our next meeting.

### **Next ACAC Meeting**

Our next meeting will be on Friday, May 1, 2015, 7:30-8:35 a.m. in BHS Conference Room B in the D Building.