

**Academic Choice Advisory Council (ACAC) Meeting
January 17, 2012, 4:00 – 5:30 PM BHS room C213
Minutes**

In Attendance

Who	Role	E-mail address
Matt Carton	ACAC Chair, Teacher Coordinator, AC House Leader	mattcarton@berkeley.net
Ben Sanoff	Teacher rep, AC House Leader	bsanoff@berkeley.net
Philippe Henri	Teacher rep	phenri@berkeley.net
Vernon Walton	AC Vice Principal	vernonwalton@berkeley.net
Lawrence Grown	Parent Coordinator	lawrence@metrolighting.com
Barbara Anscher	Parent rep, Student Support	barbaraanscher@yahoo.com
Mary Engle	Parent rep, Student Leadership, Teacher Liaison	maryengle@verizon.net
Susanna Moore	Parent rep	susannamoore@gmail.com
Francesca Verdier	Parent rep, Secretary	francesca.verdier@gmail.com
Elena Binder	Student rep	eleanab712@yahoo.com
Aaron Dressler	Student rep	aarondresslar@rocketmail.com
Olga Volodina	AC Parent Leadership Committee, ACAC Treasurer	olga-volodina@sbcglobal.net
Randi Boorstein	AC Parent Leadership Committee, Liaison to Berkeley High School Development Group	randiboorstein@gmail.com
Carol Brownstein	AC Parent Leadership Committee, AC Commencement	carol.brownstein@gmail.com
Denise Hingle	AC Parent Leadership Committee	dhingle@mindspring.com
Jim Webster	Guest - parent	jsibleywebster@mindspring.com

ACAC meeting dates for Feb-June 2012

The dates below are subject to change, but mark your calendars:

- Tue Feb 21
- Tue March 20
- Tue April 17
- Tue May 15
- Tue May 29 – to be confirmed

All ACAC meetings are from 4:00 – 5:30 PM in BHS room C213.

Student input on AC commencement 2012

We did not have time to cover this, but Carol Brownstein sent a note to the etree for:

- Students class of 2012 to come to room C213 after finals next Thursday January 26. We need your help in shaping your commencement ceremony. Tell us who you want to speak, what your sash should look like and (most importantly) how best to tell your AC experience.
- Parents to come to 583 Vincente, No. Berkeley, on Thursday January 26, 7 PM, for a commencement organizational meeting.

ACAC student recruiting, Structure on ACAC

Mary Engle discussed the difference between student rep work on the Student Senate and on ACAC. Students need to earn leadership credits on the Student Senate, for which they receive one course credit. This may not leave much time for ACAC work – should ACAC have its own elections, or continue to rely on AC students on the Senate to also serve on ACAC. The students thought that there should not be separate ACAC elections, and that Mary can continue to recruit ACAC student reps from students serving on various committees (School Site Committee, Berkeley Schools Excellence Project, Student Leadership, Student Senate etc.).

Parent support for the activities of Academic Support Coordinator Jessie Luxford

Jesse Luxford needs tutoring help. Maybe tutors paid for by the Development Group, or the Cal students who come to the Career Center could help – Mary Engle to check into this. Mary also sent a note to the etree soliciting parent help, especially during fifth period (1:28 - 2:26 PM) and after school at BHS in Room H102B. If you can help with tutoring, please let Jessie Luxford know: 510-289-4107.

BSEP Proposal for AC Resource Coordinator

The deadline to request money from BSEP for next year is February 27. Lawrence Grown is coordinating the proposal to continue paying AC resource coordinator Jessie Luxford, probably at .9 FTE. He will solicit by January 31 teacher statements on Jesse's work from Amanda Green, Matt Laurel and Matt Carton. He will also

bring a draft of the proposal to our next ACAC meeting on February 27. It will be important to demonstrate quantitative impacts Jesse's work is having on struggling students.

Plans for AC Presentations at Information Night February 1

Information Night for incoming parents will be February 1 at 7 PM. Lawrence Grown presented draft powerpoint slides with a narrative to describe AC. He will not be able to present on Feb 1 – can any parent do this? Matt Carton and Ben Sanoff are coordinating the agenda for that evening – and will send out an email with the details. We might (or not) want to compare and contrast IB and AC – if so the talking points should be run by the team leads of both programs. It might be worth pointing out that AC with its many electives is a great choice both for students who know what specific subjects they want to study, as well as those who are unsure of their career path.

New AC website development

Ben Sanoff showed a prototype for a new AC website that matches the style of the new BHS website. He proposed that ACAC provide \$1,400 in funds for this effort. This passed unanimously. He is working with Matthew Albinson, the Technology Coordinator who developed the new BHS website, to make sure there aren't duplicated efforts and to share data like teacher contact information.

We didn't have time to discuss improvements to the AC page on the new BHS website. After a few iterations by email after the meeting:

AC Is Ideal for Students Who Want To:

- Be prepared to succeed in a 4-year college or university
- Choose from the widest possible list of electives, Advanced Placement classes, and courses of study
- Decide which subjects to study in depth
- Be in Berkeley High's largest learning community with access to a wide range of peers

Chrome Notebook Cart

Ben also mentioned that AC can get a cart of 30 chrome notebooks for \$15,000. \$5,000 from PBEF is available for this purchase. The ACAC attendees proposed that Ben solicit another \$5,000 from the Development Group, and voted unanimously to provide \$5,000 from ACAC funds.

Graphing Calculators

Barbara Anscher has volunteered to purchase these. She can buy refurbished calculators, or new. The ACAC attendees thought that buying new calculators was less risky, and that Barbara should go ahead with the lowest price that she can find.

English Writing Tutors

They will start next semester. Matt Carton will coordinate their work.

Approval of December 2011 ACAC minutes

Matt Carton approved the December 2011 ACAC minutes.