



ACAC (Academic Choice Advisory Council) Meeting Minutes – 10/03/08

In Attendance

Name	eMail Address
Maggie Heredia-Peltz	mph@berkeley.k12.ca.us
Matt Carton	mcarton@berkeley.k12.ca.us
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Angela Kollias-Pearson	angelapearsona@gmail.com

INTRODUCTIONS

Maggie Heredia-Peltz: Vice Principal, AC Administrator
Matt Carton: Co-Lead Teacher of AC, English
Sherene Randle: Co-Lead Teacher of AC, English, not present
Alex Angell: Teacher, History, Teacher-Parent Liaison
Ben Sanoff: Teacher, Social Science
David Bye: AP English, Short Story
Doug Powers: AP Economics, Theopsychology
Jane Wise: Parent, Teacher-Admin liaison, BHSDG
Janet Delaney: Parent, Events
Jon Marley: Parent, Fundraising, Outreach, School Governance
Karen Meryash: Parent, Student Support, Events
Kate Spohr: Parent, Parent Coordinator, Website, not present
Lawrence Grown: Parent, ACAC Secretary, Events
Scott Lancaster: ACAC Treasurer, Parent of BHS graduate
Ali Kashani: prospective ACAC Treasurer, Parent
Mia Levin: Student Leadership
Paris Clark: Student Leadership, Events
Angela Kollias-Pearson, Student Leadership

MASTER SCHEDULE

AC Teachers will be meeting with Principal Slemph Wednesday 10/08/08.
Parent Leadership will request a meeting with Principal Slemph 10/17/08 or sooner.
A petition will be circulated in support of greater commitment to core scheduling, teacher continuity, and transparency of the goals and process of creating and maintaining the master schedule.
(An outside service may be better suited for this process.)

TEACHER VACANCIES

One candidate is still awaiting fingerprint clearance.
All other full time positions have been filled.
Tim Moellering is teaching AP US History and Pop Culture. His periods 1, 3 and 6 need temporary teachers.

STUDENT SUPPORT

Tutorials are set up and scheduled.
A Study Skills workshop is scheduled for October 14 in the Library.
After progress reports arrive, 9th and 10th grade students with 2 or more D/Fs and 11th and 12th grade students with 1 or more D/Fs will be invited to study skills workshops.
At-Risk Seniors will be added to Brian Crowell's list for mentoring, tutoring. Brian will be working with counselor Anthony Smith and with Christina Mitchell.

Maggie, the four counselors and Dean Ramos visited all Freshmen and Sophomore classes to introduce themselves and ask what the students need for support.
Maggie is meeting with the four counselors weekly.

STUDENT LEADERSHIP

First mentoring day was 9/17/08.
Approximately 70 Juniors and Seniors participated.
All day Freshmen were teamed up with upperclassmen in ratios of 3-5:1
It was successful and fun. Next time more teacher notice will be given.

TEACHER SUPPORT

BTSA (Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment)
http://www.btsa.ca.gov/BTSA_basics.html gives a good overview.
BTSA provides mentorship for new teachers and is working well, but may have a current shortfall in History. Maggie will work with Bill Pratt of BTSA to work out any problems.

Ben Sanoff reported that teachers are meeting twice per month for professional development to review best practices. Once/month is all AC, the other is separated 9/10 and 11/12 grade teachers.

Ben is developing institutional memory of curriculum and lesson plans on a Wiki site for teacher aid and continuity.

OUTREACH

The BUSD African American Family Reunion was Sept 20th at Rosa Parks. AC helped to sponsor the event with money for food (\$500) and an information table about AC. The speakers gave AC kudos and appreciations. The event was well attended.

FRESHMEN AND SOPHOMORE POTLUCKS

AC Freshman Family / Teacher Potluck is coming on Wednesday, Oct. 15 from 6pm to 8:30pm in the Food Court, Sophomore Potluck to follow on Oct 22. AC Freshman and Sophomore teachers received personalized invitations. AC English teachers received flyers to hand out at Back To School Night. All AC teachers will be contacted further by email and notes, with more flyers for students in English and Spanish. Email and telephone outreach are planned.

TREASURERS REPORT

About \$10,000 has been donated so far, in smaller amount from more donors than last year, but equal to the amount held at this time last year. About \$33,000 total was raised last year. Envelopes will be circulated at the Potlucks and General Meeting. Alex and Ben to give calls for donations at those events, we hope :) Mobile computer labs are in the works but cost \$40,000 each. Jane, Ben, Maggie and Jon are working on this proposal with the BHSDG.

EVENTS, MEETINGS

October 8, AC Teacher meeting with Principal Slempp
October 17, proposed parent meeting with Principal Slempp
October 14 study skills workshop
October 15 Freshman Potluck
October 22 Sophomore Potluck
October 27 School Board Candidate Debate at Williard 6pm
ACAC General Meeting October 28th 7pm College and Career Center
ACAC Meetings scheduled for the 1st Friday every month

Next ACAC Meeting Scheduled for 11/07/08