

Academic Choice Advisory Council Meeting - Minutes Friday, January 12, 2007

In attendance:

Amy Frey
Amelia Starr
Caitlin Morrissey
Jane Wise
Chris Gilbert
Sherene Randall
Karen Kaufman
Jessica Seaton
David Bye
Matt Carton
Scott Lancaster

Minutes:

- * Sherene Randle distributed a rubric for "9th grade AC Language and Composition Coursework". (Attached)
- * Senior Seminar. It was decided that it would be held in the Spring semester of the Senior year since coursework was lighter, esp. after May AP tests.
- * Jessica suggested that the name of Academic Choice be changed to "Academic Choices". Because of a Feb. 1st deadline for the catalog, after discussion, a vote was held with a majority voting for the name change. Members not present are to be given a chance to vote.
- * Jessica also inquired about implementing a 'core' humanities curriculum that would reflect the purpose of AC. No decision was made on this.
- * Social Living course assessment: Original School Board presentation included requirement for assessment. It was decided that a self-assessment would be done immediately after the course of teachers and students. A formal outside assessment will be done later.

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Define -History

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Justify-English

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Respond-History

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Discuss-English

➤ Diagnostic

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Evaluate-History

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Analyze-English

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Compare-History

Short mediated academic writing
➤ Open-English

Next Steps:

- Choose paragraph organizers and templates for each writing type
 - Choose common rubrics for each writing type
 - Revise Student Handbook (include sample rubrics and common roots)
 - Choose common proofreading legend
 - Choose official citation format
 - Clearly articulate the consequences for plagiarism
 - Review diagnostic assessments
 - Track down and distribute books and LCDs that have been ordered
 - Organize Comedy Festival
 - SSR Reader
 - Nonfiction Reader
 - Copy templates and rubrics for widespread use
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9th Grade AC Language and Composition Course Framework
Theodore, Godbey, Randle
2007-2008

Program Goals

- To provide rigorous and academic instruction
- To utilize strategies that support diverse classrooms
- To integrate common academic writing and reading tasks into core content areas

Reading

- 4 units of nonfiction
- 4 units of fiction
- SSR with writing response

Writing

Instruction will include:

- 20 Academic Power Words *from Academic Words List*
- 8 Major Academic Essays
- Frequent short mediated academic writing tasks building up to major essays (One-page argument style)
- Grammar (Shrunk and White)
- Word roots

Writing Program

Writing units will consist of:

- Diagnostics (Results shared between core partners)
- Summarize (Introduction to basic academic paragraph structure)

* AC graduation was discussed – Jane and Jessica suggested an AC sash for graduating students. Caitlin and Amelia were interested – Jessica to follow up.

Next Meeting: Friday, February 2, 2007 @ 7:15 am, Conf. Rm B

(Send corrections / additions to Chris Gilbert, cagilb@pacbell.net)