



Dana Bailey, Principal • Condee Holbrook, Assistant Principal

Pacific Cascade Freshman Campus
Site Council Minutes – Approved
April 23, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Dana Bailey at 2:45 pm. The following were present: Laura Freeman, Mary Beth Jones, Lise Place, Susan Lammers, John Lynn, Condee Holbrook, Dana Bailey, Megan Chadderton, Lisa Brashem, Mara Brashem, Jessica Heaton, Steve Simpson, and Christina Morris

Minutes: March minutes were approved as written.

New Business:

Site Council Application:

- Applications for next year Parent Representatives will be posted on PLMS, BLMS and IMS school websites and sent out in their E-news.
- We will send the applications and the process out in PCFC E-news also.

Day of Silence:

- Concern was voiced about the Day of Silence which was held on March 17th.
- Some student participants complained that they were taunted and teased throughout the day.
- How can we fine tune the process so that the participants are not harassed?
- The event is communicated to students and to parents through e-news.
- The process is constantly refined.
- Because this is a social justice issue, teasing and taunting is expected (though not acceptable behavior). Part of the activity is to experience the injustice of the discrimination pointed toward gays and lesbians.
- At what point can you disallow an activity because it disrupts the school day?
- Surprised by the number of people who don't read their e-mail. All we can do is send out e-mails; if people choose not to read them, we aren't sure what else we can do.
- At Mt. Si, about a third of their student body doesn't come to school on that day. Would it be inappropriate to share the law in social studies class? Yes – if it's part of the curriculum.
- One comment - don't want it to grow bigger than it needs to – it's a club thing, doesn't need to take over the whole school. It's better if it's kept within the club. Keep it small.
- On the other side, our Higher Ground Club prays around the flag pole and we get as many complaints about that.
- Most students, had a very positive experience. They didn't see or hear any teasing.
- Are the kids getting kicked on/harassed because of the subject matter or because they've set themselves apart?
- It's both. The message is about tolerance – it's not about gay pride; it's about teaching tolerance. We will continue to do it every year because it's the law, and the communication has continued to get better and better.

Old Business: None

Principal's Report: Dana Bailey

Budget

- Number announced at the school board that puts 13 of our teachers on RIF. This is a stressful situation for all people in that category.
- PCFC will be bigger next year by 100 kids.
- They aren't intending to do recalls until after school is out.
- All of this should be kept among the adults to keep things in order for students as much as possible.
- Jessica: Staff Appreciation Week couldn't have come at a better time.

HIV/AIDS Curriculum

- April 27 and 28: 4-hour training for the teachers
- May 8: Special schedule for a 90-minute lesson on HIV/AIDS – focus is on transmission prevention; new curriculum is FLASH

Academics:

Science – John Lynn

- Science teachers are going to take a day off together to do inventory and to look at a common assessment together. They will analyze a question together to see how our students are doing.

Math – Christina Morris

- Finishing Chapter 9 – Pythagorean Theorem – in Algebra. Next chapter is quadratic formula.
- Geometry – working on circles
- Math Adoption: new high school math standards for the state of Washington a couple of months ago; we met and compared new math standards to our curriculum, and found they don't match. We have the money to adopt a new curriculum, so we have been meeting to choose a new curriculum. We have it narrowed down to a list of three textbooks. We are trying to do a lesson or two – not time for a pilot. We have them circulated through the math department so our peers can offer input. We should be done sometime next month. The money is for Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra II and isn't being taken away from anyone else.

Special Education – Steve Simpson

- Transition meetings for special education students both to the high schools and from the middle schools. We are in the process of preparing for those meetings.
- It's very important for our special education students to be appropriately placed in classes from the first day of school and also to send our knowledge of our current students to the high schools.

Social Studies – Jessica Heaton

- We have been working on adopting a more aligned curriculum. We have been looking at state standards to select the most important learning targets. It's an intense process. We have some people looking at Latin America, some looking at Africa, and we are all moving toward the UN simulation.

English – Megan Chadderton

- Seattle Shakespeare Company is here all week every day but Wednesday
- A ton of fun!
- Tuesday – stage combating; Today – dancing
- Idea is to put them into Shakespeare's world and get them excited about the play
- Friday – learn some basic acting moves and basic ideas about acting

- The students will be “doing” the play rather than just reading it
- End of unit – students will be acting out their own scenes

Foreign Language – Dana Bailey

- Also doing a common assessment so that all of the Spanish kids will have learned the same things
- Have connected with high school teachers in vertical alignment
- Big step between Spanish 1 and Spanish 2 books – there’s a break between the books, so they’re working on fixing it
- French 1 isn’t going to be offered at IHS next year
- We are working on bussing Skyline kids to PCFC who need to take first year language class or Algebra 1. We are trying to make it work so kids can get what they want

ASB Report – Mara Brashem

Announcements

- Trying to improve. We are making a huge backdrop – similar to the backdrop in the news that looks like Seattle. We are making one that looks like this area with mountains, etcetera. We are also working on Velcro weather.
- We are still working on getting riddles approved. Students can put answers in a box. Win a prize.

Semi-Formal

- Not called semi-formal anymore – it’s “the big event” – Monte Carlo Night
- June 6th
- It’s going to be a casino night theme
- Spirit Week will be Las Vegas Hotels – Hard Rock, Flamenco, Mandalay Bay,

Survey

- Most people said they wanted a two hour dance. Ours will be 2 ½ hours. We want it to be dark for at least part of the event, 8:30 pm – 11:00 pm.
- Kids said they wanted extra activities – casino games was the number one
- There will also be raffles for students to win prizes
- Guitar Hero will also be available

Chaperones

- Highest chaperone rate in the district
- Continue to have lots of chaperones and will educate them
- Have administrators and police officers checking for illegal behavior
- Most of our chaperones are teachers; parents have not been as comfortable interrupting bad behavior; also, the kids don’t want their parents there

Appropriate Dance Clothing and Vehicles

- What is “semi-formal” wear for girls? For boys?
- We want to give parents “an out” for spending tons of money on this dance- no flowers, limos, tuxes, etcetera.
- No interrupting class time for asking each other to the dance
- Parents think clarity is good and that parents would appreciate guidelines for appropriate behavior

Student Recognition Assembly

- Hoping to get information out to PTSA and parents because we hope to recognize a lot of students on May 29th.

Student Recognition Breakfast

- We don’t have a date yet

- Every semester, each teacher selects one student who has exhibited our school goals

Classified Report – Mary Beth Jones

Counseling: Working on demographics coming up from 8th grade and scheduling
Bookkeeping: getting ready for the big fundraiser and the ASB budget

PTSA Report – Lise Place

- We do one fall fundraiser; on-line registration impacts how much money PTSA gets. We'll see how we do next year.
- We will back-fill depending on where budget cuts fall. Our budgets may change as we try to cover what we can.
- Staff Appreciation – May 4th

Susan Lammers

- SHS -- Sandy Kurtz will take Susan's place as PTSA liaison for PCFC
- On levy committee for PCFC; proposing three different levies for next February: Maintenance, Bus Transportation, School Building Fund
- We have to pass the levies or we're really sunk: half the teachers would be laid off if it doesn't pass
- Our district contribution will stay the same regardless of what happens at the state level: our levy lid doesn't change

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm.