

Student Improvement Leadership Team

Tuesday, September 26th, 2006

Members Present: James Hill, Rob Anderson, Kris Johnson, Leann Burris, Emily Meyer, Mike Sheehan, Albert McGee, Sherry Augst and Ross Young.

Principal's Update

- Principal's update covered in remaining agenda information.

OALC Yearbook

- Barbara Ohmacht and Emily Meyer would like to work with students to design and publish an OALC yearbook (something simple and low cost). There is student interest in the project and the costs would be kept to a minimum.
- SILT supports the project and Rob Anderson will ask Barbara to check into specifics on the cost of publishing a yearbook (including in-house vs. outside publishing avenues).

SILT Meeting Schedule: Meeting Less Frequently

- A suggestion was made to meet once a month instead of twice a month.
- Discussion included: Is the meeting schedule determined by the constitution by-laws? Is one meeting practical considering the length of current meetings? Will SILT be able to effectively address agenda items if we meet less frequently?
- The decision was made to continue meeting twice monthly and to adhere to the designated meeting time framework as much as possible.
- Rob Anderson will clarify with Don Myhre if the SILT constitution is accessible on-line at the SILT link on the OALC website.

Site Plan Goals

- SILT approved the addition of a cultural awareness goal to the 2006-2007 Site Improvement Plan. The goal will focus on cultural competency, respect and awareness for OALC staff and students. This goal is also supported by on-going and future staff development opportunities and student programming at the OALC.
- Mr. Hill and Rob Anderson will present the final draft of the Site Improvement Plan at a future SILT meeting.

Daily Oral Math

- James Donovan and Johnny Hedgepeth will present ideas and recommendations for a daily oral math program at a future meeting.
- Mr. Hill will follow-up on information from Ross Young about a school-wide daily math program that has been implemented in another school district.

Discipline by Race

- Awareness of this issue is being addressed by OALC administration and the current data reflects the administration's discipline principle that behavior is the descriptor, not race, when making discipline decisions.

Tardy Drill Consequences

- Last spring SILT agreed to revisit the tardy drill process implemented at the end of the school year.
- Discussion included:
 - Recognition of the drop in tardiness at the beginning of the school year (attributed to the increase in passing time and the warning bells).
 - Do we want to be proactive or reactive in dealing with tardiness?
 - Is tracking tardiness through the attendance incentive program (rather than random tardy drills) a more effective and less arbitrary approach to the issue?
 - What should the consequences be for tardiness?
 - Suggestion to put students on restricted pass instead of taking away field trip privileges – a consequence more in alignment with the behavior.
 - How do we teach responsibility and accountability and support the development of positive behaviors/habits?
- The decision was made to monitor excessive tardiness through the attendance incentive process and to try the suggestion of putting students on restricted pass as needed.

Ruined Chairs

- Joe Iten is asking staff to be aware that a number of student chairs have been damaged since the beginning of the school year.
- Mr. Hill will make an announcement to students about the consequences of property damage.
- If teachers have chairs needing repair, please notify Joe or leave a note on the chair in your classroom.

MAAP Legislative Meetings

- Mr. Hill will attend the first MAAP meeting on alternative programs and legislative issues. He will follow-up with SILT members about additional dates for the legislative meetings; topics covered and a request for volunteers to attend future meetings.

Transitions Class

- Leann Burris shared her concern that the Transitions class for graduating students will not be scheduled at this time.
- Discussion included:
 - Concerns that the decision had not been communicated to staff.

- Reasons for the administrative decision – graduation requirements, limited staff resources and scheduling constraints.
 - The importance of providing transition support and curriculum to students.
 - The pros and cons of providing the support and curriculum in a designated class versus assigning parts of the curriculum to different curricular areas.
 - Exploring other avenues for helping students transition to life after the OALC.
 - How can we approach challenges and issues in a positive manner and effectively make decisions as a leadership team?
- No specific recommendations concerning the Transitions course were made at this time.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 3, 2006