

BCS Professional Study Committee

Notes 5/18/2011

Notes by D. Koenemann

Present: J. Modert, L. Franks, K. Sobeski, M. Bielawski, T. Long, D. Koenemann, W. McCrea, H. Gest, M. Heifner

Mark Heifner convened the meeting at 3:30. The group reviewed the norms and the mission statement.

Each subcommittee shared notes from meetings and a brief discussion was held regarding progress and needs.

Technology-reported by Jim Modert. The group has met 3 times. They have addressed the following discussion points:

- Implementation of tech standards
- The 8th grade technology assessment
- We are behind in implementing the newest tech standards
- Aligning the tech plan with SI plans (district and building plans)
- Using the MDE checklist for integrating technology
- Possibilities for future tech equipment improvements
- Costs & current/potential funding sources for technology
- Integration of technology into assessment plans in for content areas
- Assessing technology competencies in staff and students
- Gathering information regarding parent/student use of technology, assessment of our uses, and attitudes toward technology
- Current revisions of board policies are underway which will likely affect the technology plan and tech practices

Literacy-reported by Dixie Koenemann

- All grade levels have studied the Common Core State Standards and have done an overview assessment of current alignment and gaps with the CCSS.
- Group is busily gathering baseline data in numerous areas including student achievement, teaching practices, assessment and methods of assessing, interventions, differentiation, professional development, parent involvement, etc.
- When all baseline data is gathered, the next step will be the forming of a vision regarding where we should be in relation to K-12 literacy, student achievement, and teaching practices.

Wellness-reported by Traci Long

- The committee is collecting information regarding current and past practices in promoting wellness and will report at their next meeting.
- They are exploring grant opportunities. It was noted by Jim that we would likely receive \$1000-\$1500 from Coordinated School Health, the former Safe and Drug-Free Schools.
- The next meeting will be May 19th.

Parent-Community Collaboration-reported by Jim Modert

- Jim chaired the past two meetings
- The second meeting had a low turnout and the group is meeting again on 5/18/11 at 6:00 p.m. Each member was challenged to bring another potential member to the 5/18 meeting.
- The group has listed many ideas such as:
 - Using media including radio and newspaper to communicate school accomplishments & events.
 - Sharing building newsletters and "clipboards" electronically rather than in hard copy only

- Update the website and encourage its frequent use by parents & community members
- List school events on the community calendar at the city offices
- Establish a Key Communicator Group to confer regularly with Jim
- Use social media in an attempt to share positive information
- Encourage staff members to take pictures of events and share information with newspapers while observing board policies (which may be changing under current NEOLA revisions)
- Getting businesses involved as guest readers/presenters in classrooms, students creating ads for the businesses, linking businesses to schools through other special events
- Use the electronic marquee at CSS to communicate additional events
- Provide positive information to realtors

College/Work Readiness-reported by Wes McCrea

Jaycee Lindsey made a presentation to the subcommittee on ways to promote college readiness

- Discussed May term classes and how to make them more rigorous
- Virtual college tours
- Teach students to complete scholarship apps
- Create a mentoring program with college alums and current college students linked to BHS students intending to attend that college
- Improve the scholarship database

We discussed this subcommittee's need for baseline data and how that might be collected.

General Discussion Points for this committee

- This committee may be able to help coordinate efforts among subcommittees, especially related to surveying parents, students, and staff
- Each subcommittee should report any professional development needs as soon as possible as administrators are currently writing the professional development plan, the LEA-Planning Cycle document, and the Title II budget for PD
- Jim presented the new Board of Education goals to the committee. He also shared the draft version of the new BCS district vision and mission statement. These will be presented for adoption at the next board meeting.
- We have ordered banners for each building and one that can be used for parades and special events.

The next meeting will be scheduled by Mark using Meeting Wizard.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.