

West Seattle High School
Building Leadership Team Meeting

4/08/08

Present: Bruce Bivins, Anitra Pinchback-Jones, Jenny Maughan-MacDonald, Cheryl Sylanski, Marguerite Jones, Juan Price, Pam Hering, Regina Walker, Janne Endreo, Craig Richardson, Martha Tonkin, Carol Wakefield

The meeting was called to order by Pam Hering

The minutes from 3/25 were reviewed. With a few adjustments and amendments, the minutes were voted on and approved.

Principal's Report:

Mr. Bivins said that since we last met, high school principals have been pulled out of their buildings a lot. They met at SSCC Brockey Center. One meeting was about the achievement gap and how students can get credits out of CTE classes. Only 3 out of 10 who started in 9th grade, graduated from 4-year colleges.

Yesterday he attended a meeting where the Strategic Plan was released. The next 15 months will be very intense working on comprehensive K-12 curriculum and alignment. Our SIP and accreditation will have to align with the Strategic Plan.

He attended another meeting today regarding the Math adoption. They are focusing on learning and reasoning and not just accuracy, through the complexity of groups, based on the theory that we are social beings and we interact with each other. He will be getting some articles together as a cornerstone for our planning.

Yesterday he went to Denny and Madison Middle Schools to visit the incoming freshmen. They made up approximately 225 of 300 + who will be here next year. After talking to other administrators and counselors, it appears that high achievers in math and music are not coming here. Bilingual kids are coming here instead of to Sealth. Virginia Metz is a good liaison between the middle schools and here.

April 30 the BLT will meet with State Accreditor from 2:30-3:30. That same night will be the Open House for incoming 9th graders.

Two parent volunteer coordinators are now on board. Amy Doll, one of our student's parents and Jose Chi, a former student. They will be in the Career Center Specialist office for now. Ms. Pinchback-Jones said that ideas of how to use them are welcome. Mr. Bivins said their main role is to help target students who are struggling and will work closely with their teachers, counselors and parents. They will also be involved with the Homework Center. They are each working 19 hours a week. For now they can be reached at 252-8818 and also by email. They also have a mailbox in the main office.

Mr. Bivins said to make note of the awsp.org website and type in NW Assoc. of Accreditation and you will get the manual. We are going to use a staff self-survey and will wait until after Jim Whitford meets with us on Apr. 30. We should be done by December.

Cheryl Sylanski said we could make a focus group for this purpose.

Mr. Bivins said he would be putting together a team for the High School Innovation grant. Wants staff from the Niners, Keepers, PTSA, Spec. Ed., Pathways, etc. for this comprehensive group. It will be in late April. We will use District Initiated subs.

We are moving into a new service delivery model for Special Education. Both Ms. Pinchback-Jones and Mr. Bivins will be working with experts downtown to make sure that people get some professional development and decide what support is needed for teachers to deliver service.

Team Teaching added to 5/21 Early Dismissal Day - all staff getting an understanding of what support teachers have.

Feedback on a special Open House for families of students with special needs. in Sept. of '08.

6/18 for these team members to give a presentation.

The BLT worked on setting up the agenda for tomorrow's staff meeting.

20 minutes for Drug & Alcohol presentation by Sandy Polzin and Virginia Metz.

SIOP second

15 min. Focus groups to set up their plans and meetings

15minutes – Slinks will explain the process - Settle on something to fix. On June 11- what did you do? What were the results?

Ms. Tonkin suggested that we start email loops to get started. Cheryl Sylanski said we need to encourage some who aren't active in so many things to take the lead.

We worked on language around the Collective Bargaining Agreement regarding Dept. head description and Instructional Specialist. The job description for a department head includes *instructional leadership*. He will read the job description with each department chair and ask for their commitment to instructional leadership.

In accordance with the new SIP and CBA, the BLT has voted to support Bruce to open all Dept. Head stipend positions for the 2008/2009 school year so that all staff may apply.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. Next meeting is 4/30/08.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Wakefield