

Mountain Vista High School
School Accountability Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 12, 2014
MVHS Library Conference Room

X	Dixon Cravens	-	Alan Long	X	Paa Adu
N	Margi Froechtenigt	X	Nicole Merschel	X	Charis Beth Swartley
X	Mike Weaver	X	Schehera McKasson	X	Hanne Schauer
X	Curt Coffman	-	Nicole Kowalski	-	Rob Ceglie
X	Dana White	X	Connie Ingram	X	Angie Driggs
X	Laura Mutton	X	Carolyn Mustin	P	Jeremy Anderson
-	Kirsten Braun	X	Sandra Nesmith		

X indicates attendance

N indicates pre-notification of absence

P indicates attendance by phone

Welcome and Introductions – Laura Mutton

- November and December Meeting Minutes were approved with minor revisions
- Sandra Nesmith, World Languages Dept. Chair, was introduced.

Department Update – Sandra Nesmith

- Sandra Nesmith, Department Chair for the World Languages Department, made a brief presentation. She shared the following information and answered questions:
 - Spanish, French, German and American Sign Language are offered.
 - Presently have four Spanish only teachers; two teachers specific to American Sign Language and French; and two who teach two different languages.
 - Courses are offered from the lowest level to the highest level (AP), depending on demand each year.
 - There is a National Honor Society for Spanish.
 - Have started a French Club, with about 4 or 5 attending weekly meetings.
 - The Department goal is to speak the language 90% of the time in the class.
 - Regarding writing, students have to write an essay in the language for that AP exam. Students are taught how to write simple emails and paragraphs in non-AP classes.
 - To get German more established will probably require more work at the Middle School level.

Principal's Report – Mike Weaver

• Crisis Team; School Safety

- Mike went over the sequence of events after the Klammo family tragedy on January 31st. Douglas Co. sheriff contacts the District's Communication & Crisis team first. When Mike was contacted by the District team, he called Wendy Strait, the other AP's, and the MV Crisis Team.
- Purpose of the MV Crisis Team is to establish a line of communications & protocol with the District and the Sheriff's communication staff; contact the teachers, especially those who knew the students and former students involved; prepare & send an email communication to the parent community; establish "circles of contact" (close friends) of those affected; and conduct an overall staff meeting the first day of school after the incident.
- Counseling was made available the week after the incident and about 50-60 students used these services.
- There is presently a ratio of about 900 students to one counselor in the District; the recommended ratio is 350 to one. Mountain Vista's ratio is 431 to one.
- Mike's ideal would be to have a full-time mental health professional at the school. He believes that the District should fund another FTE for high-enrollment high schools (over 2000 students) like Vista.
- We have put in a proposal in our budget for a 4th security guard.
- After the Arapahoe tragedy, there is a District mandate that each school can only have two unlocked doors, which have to be manned. Our front door and back door entry (by the mobiles) are manned; and the cafeteria door has a buzzer and screen view to allow entry by buzzer only.
- An FBI profiler made a presentation to administration and security during the last PLC day which addressed the profile of school shooters.

○ Celebrations and Successes

- Paa Adu has been accepted to Stanford, Colorado School of Mines. He has also applied to Harvard and the University of Pennsylvania. Congratulations, Paa!
- The Boys and Girls Basketball teams are ranked no. 3 and no. 4 in the State. Both will be in the State playoffs.
- The play "And They Danced Real Slow in Jackson" will be performed and Charis Beth Swartley has a significant role.

○ Projected Enrollment

- The projected enrollment for 2014/2015 is 2,155 students. Could potentially be 2,186 if all eligible actually enroll. There are 615 8th graders, which is a very large class. Potential for up to 2500 students by 2018 or 2019. If we did expand it would be where the mobiles now are; electrical runs are already in place in that area.
- About 70 students open enrolled; 43 or so were accepted (some turned us down; we turned some down). We have more flexibility to decline applicants in the 2nd round of open enrollment.

○ Make a Wish

- Low key this year. Nightly events were well attended. The students raised about \$16,000.

- **TCAP**
 - TCAP tests will be held the week of March 10-14th. Science tests will not be given this year – they become part of the PARCC testing next year. We will schedule Math tests early in the week to try to improve results.
 - Mike showed the “Inspire Ed” website which links to the EADMS site and contains CSAP/TCAP information for each student, including individual growth reports. This is the only quantitative data we have about students, vs. the teacher qualitative statements. This will be a part of CITE 6 in the future when teacher evaluations are partially based on student success.
 - This is theoretically the last year of TCAP testing. There is still some pushback to delay implementation of PARCC due to technology & equipment concerns in some Districts.
- **Apple Awards**
 - Mark Newton has been selected as our Apple Award teacher winner. Susan Delgado has been selected as our Classified employee winner. Pete Mazulla has been selected as our School Support winner. Final District Apple Award winners will be feted at the March 1st dinner and celebration.
- **Student Led Survey**
 - Vista students conducted a survey of teachers and District leaders. The story is in the Vista Now newspaper and website. The survey found that teachers are basically unhappy with the District, the pace of change, and would leave if they could. Seventy-seven of the 112 teachers responded to the survey, which is a high percentage.
 - Charis had not heard about the survey; Paa said there was minimal student reaction to the survey.

After Prom Update – Dana White

- As of last week (week of Feb. 3rd) about \$5000 had been raised for After Prom. Flocking is still underway.
- Dana mailed about 80 letters to residents outside the immediate school area who might not get “flocked”.
- There will be a Wild West theme this year, using props from a source in Broomfield. We have rented three inflatables, a giant movie screen, and a photo booth.
- There was a question about whether any community outreach has been done to those who don’t have kids in the school; Dana said this has not been done.
- Mike feels that we will double our attendance at After Prom this year after last year’s success.

Concurrent Enrollment – Mike Weaver

- Program has grown significantly. Eight different courses are offered, and we are hoping to add a Humanities class.
- About 400 kids took Concurrent Enrollment classes through Arapahoe Community College last semester.
- Pros and cons of Concurrent Enrollment classes were discussed; students must realize that these classes count towards high school GPA and may or may not be accepted for college credit outside the State.

Principal Evaluation Recommendations – Laura Mutton

- Laura suggested that those interested in participating in preparing recommendations should read through both the District LEAD (Leadership Effectiveness through Analysis & Data) document and the Colorado State Model of Rubrics for Evaluating Principals. The focus should be on what we as a SAC value in a principal.
- She believes that if everyone has prepared, the review of a subcommittee to do this work should take about an hour. Volunteers who wished to serve on this subcommittee were noted.
- It is imperative to consider what is important to the staff during principal evaluations.
- Steve Johnson is Mike's District evaluator; the evaluation would also go through Dan McMinimee.

DAC Report – Hanne Schauer

- Hanne reported on the February 11th DAC meeting. Main topic of discussion was the District Strategic Plan.
- The Strategic Plan as presented was very vague. Recommendations received didn't have a lot to do with the Plan.

Budget Update – Mike Weaver

- The Site Based Budget recommendations from the District will be coming out next Tuesday, February 18th.
- Preliminary numbers received February 11th are "looking better" for per pupil allocation, which is our main concern.
- The \$200 million extra State money for education will quickly be used up, and probably not in Douglas County.
- There was discussion about whether there was enough in the proposed budget for more FTE's to possibly go back to the 5 of 7 schedule, but still maintain the less than 30 class size. This will not be easy to do.
- There are many positives with the Freshman Seminar that would be lost if we went back to the 5 of 7 schedule.
- It is a real balancing act to do what's best for the teachers (the vast majority of whom support going back to 5 of 7) and what's best for the students, but we need a "win" for the teachers.

Open Forum

- Curt Coffman had two questions: Will the Graduation be streamed (yes); and are Booster Clubs going away (no, but most are transitioning to avoid the pitfalls of outside interests).

The meeting was adjourned @ 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dixon Cravens.

Future Meetings:

SAC meetings will be held on the second Thursday of every month. The next SAC meeting will be on April 10, 2014 in the Library Conference Room.

DAC Meetings (held in Board Room, 620 Wilcox Street Castle Rock, 6:30-8:30 p.m.): *DAC Rep must attend; all SAC members encouraged to attend.*

- March 11, 2014
- April 8, 2014
- May 13, 2014
- June 10, 2014

BOE "Unplugged" Meeting (held at Rocky Heights Middle School at 6:00 p.m.)

- May 6, 2014