

**Mountain Vista High School
School Accountability Committee Meeting Minutes**
Thursday, September 11, 2014
MVHS Library Conference Room

X	Dixon Cravens	X	Alan Long	X	Jordan Faraci
X	Margi Froechtenigt	X	Kristen Kidd	X	Natalie Barnard
X	Mike Weaver	X	Schehera McKasson	X	Hanne Schauer
X	Curt Coffman	X	Nicole Kowalski	X	Rob Ceglie
-	Dana White	X	Connie Ingram	X	Angie Driggs
X	Laura Mutton	-	Carolyn Mustin	X	Jeremy Anderson
X	Michele Finley	X	Melissa Harris	X	Kevin Larsen

X indicates attendance

N indicates pre-notification of absence

Welcome and Introductions – Laura Mutton

- Laura introduced newly elected SAC members Michele Finley and Kristen Kidd
- Laura introduced School Board President Kevin Larsen
- Mike introduced Jordan Faraci as a student SAC member; he also introduced Natalie Barnard as a new teacher at MVHS and parent Melissa Harris
- May Meeting Minutes were approved with no changes

Review of Norms – Laura Mutton

- Begin and end on time.
- Share the air.
- Be cautious about bringing personal agenda items to the meeting.
- Use the issue bin for items you'd like discussed.

SAC Election of 2014-2015 Officers – Laura Mutton

- Laura Mutton was elected as Chairperson
- Jeremy Anderson was elected as Vice-Chairperson
- Kristen Kidd was elected as Recorder
- Hanne Schauer was elected as DAC Liaison; Kristen Kidd will be back-up
- Angie Driggs was selected as PTO/Booster Representative
- Margi Froechtenigt has agreed to serve as our Community Business Member

Principal's Report – Mike Weaver

- Mike sees the SAC as the “systematic information system” for the school
- Start of the 2014-2015 school year has been great so far
- Lindsay Jaffe has taken over the Leadership Team; more than 230 Link Crew students were here for August 4th & 5th school sign up
- We ended up hiring 21 new teachers due to added sections under the new 5 of 7 schedule, retirements, moves, etc.
- Budget Update and Enrollment:
 - Currently have 2145 enrolled (including 516 Seniors); were projecting 2155 so will have to give some funds back to District (this was covered by a contingency line item in the budget)
 - Budget for the school year is \$11,252,000
 - Have budgeted to continue Freshman Seminar
 - Possibility of 2260 enrollment next year
- Student Parking Update:
 - Have 705 available spaces; lost about 20 from last year due to increased staff size
 - We over-sold available spaces last year and had some problems, so only sold 705 this year; with 1038 Juniors and Seniors we are about 330 spaces short
 - Working through issues this causes; trying to not issue too many tickets and spend so much time with enforcement which takes up valuable security manpower and time
 - Common misconception that Vista keeps the parking permit fees; the paved west end lot permit monies go to the District
 - About 15 to 20 kids open enrolled for the school year; building space and parking availability can be a detriment to kids open enrolling here
- Schedule Update:
 - Students are about 90% positive about the change back to the 5 of 7 schedule; teachers are virtually 100% positive about it
 - Some kids say they don't have as much study time as before, but most like the one block day per week and seeing their teachers more times per week than before
 - Nine new staff FTE's were hired to accommodate school growth and keep class sizes where they need to be after the schedule change
 - Still have 30 minutes PLC time each week; Thursday is block day; Freshmen are not always using the extra hour wisely
 - All Highlands Ranch high schools are on the 5 of 7 schedule; Chaparral and Douglas County HS are studying changing to the 5 of 7
- Celebrations and Successes:
 - The Technology Student Association won the State TSA Competition in the spring. We took 26 kids to National competition and took 10th overall.
 - A lot of STEM students are coming back to Vista

- Nearly 850 students are currently involved in Athletics or members of a Club
- Vista Marching Band came in 2nd in this year's Colorado State Fair competition; participation is way up
- MVHS finally got into Newsweek's Best School list, coming in at 273rd best in the nation
- Homecoming Update
 - Homecoming Week is October 6th; the football game vs. Fruita Monument is Thursday and the Dance is Friday night.
 - \$30 wrist band gets students into all events and the Dance
 - Leadership Team has been working hard to make Homecoming Week a success; the theme is The Wizard of Oz to line up with the Play being performed this Fall

Strategic Plan Update – Mike Weaver

- Strategic Plan must be re-done every three years; ours expires this year and is due to be re-done
- Will present proposed Strategic Plan to staff during September 26th PLC Day, then present to the SAC at our October meeting.
- There will be a Safety & Security component to our new Strategic Plan
- Kevin Larsen stated that the BOE appreciates that there is staff buy-in and participation in the Strategic Plan at Vista; too many schools don't know much about their Strategic Plan and thus have no real stake in it
- It was noted that the BOE still has not responded to the SAC's request for a solid definition of what a "world class education" is. Mr. Larsen stated that it is to prepare our kids to be versatile enough to compete in a global economy and work force. Several members of the SAC noted that this can be an overused buzzword and requested more clarity from the BOE and the District about what "world class education" truly means.

Accreditation/Certification – Mike Weaver

- TCAP results were very strong – Vista was above State and District averages in all 9 areas
- Vista's School Composite ACT score from the mandatory state test Juniors took in April was 22.9, which is in the top 10% in the State
- 575 kids took 937 AP Exams; 600 plus kids are taking AP courses; 75% of our kids got a 3.0 or better on the AP Exams
- 14 Concurrent Enrollment classes (partnering with Arapahoe Community College) are being offered at MVHS
- Mr. Larsen was asked whether any Douglas County high schools were allowing five years of study to obtain an Associate's Degree (five other high schools in Colorado do allow this). He said he was not aware of any that do this in Douglas County, noting that this would essentially be "academic red-shirting".

DAC Report – Hanne Schauer

- Hanne reported on the September 9th DAC meeting. The new DAC Chair included the audience more in discussions than she has seen before, so we're off to a good start. The meeting was not well attended, however. The October meeting has been changed from October 14th to October 28th so the three vacancies can be voted on if the BOE affirms new candidates at their October Board meeting.

Open Forum

- We are adding a fifth security guard so that all doors are being monitored either by security personnel or video
- There was a request to continue the Department Chair presentations in future SAC meetings
- There was a discussion about what can be done in our curricula to avoid the necessity for college remediation courses in a student's college Freshman year

The meeting was adjourned @ 8:40 a.m. Several attendees toured the new STEM Lab.

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 held at 7:00 a.m. on October 9, 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.*

- October 28, 2014
- November 11, 2014 Fall Forum at Cimarron Middle School
- December 9, 2014