

SAC Minutes 11-19-2013

Attendance: Kim, April, Jessica, Michelle, Bindu

**Minutes from mtg. in all CAPS.

We will review all information presented at the last meeting and represented in the notes below. Group will make a decision about the direction/project in which SAC chooses to go this year. We will vote and then assign next steps to begin work on that project.

TEAM DISCUSSED ALL AREAS ND PRESENTED INFORMATION FROM THEIR HOMEWORK. EVENTUALLY THE TEAM VOTED ON TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION. WE CHOSE THIS BECAUSE WE BELIEVE THAT INCREASING TECHNOLOGY USE CAN IMPROVE ACHEIVEMENT AND ALSO PREPARE US FOR PARCC AND POTENTIALLY BLENDED LEARNING THAT IS COMING DOWN THE PIKE. EACH OF US HAS TAKEN ANDAREA OF FOCUS TO COME PREPARED TO SHARE AT THE NEXT MTG. HERE IS THE PLAN:

KIM: MEET WITH JOSH TO GIVE HIM A HEADS UP ON OUR PLANS, ASK FOR HIS INPUT AND TO PICK HIS BRAIN ABOUT THE DIRECTION HE HAS PLANNED ON TAKING HE SCHOOL IN THE EAR FUTURE. HOW CAN/SHOULD WE COLLABORATE? ALSO DISCUSS HOW WE CAN IMPROVE SHCPS AND OUR ABILITY TO IMPROVE COMMUNITY ACCESSIBILITY TO OUR SCHOOL. (eg. REGISTER ONLINE, NOT IN SCHOOL)

APRIL: TALKING WITH GRADES K-2 TO DETERMINE THEIR CURRENT TECHNOLOGY USE, NEEDS, AND EVENTUALLY DEVELOPING A PLAN/TRAINING FOR THE TEACHERS SO THEY CAN INCLUDE TECHNOLOGICAL LEARNING MORE FREQUENTLY.

JESSICA: GRANTS FOR INCREASING OUR TECHNOLOGY OPTIONS.

MICHELLE: PROFESSIONAL DEVELoment FOR TEACHERS, WHAT MAKES THE MOST SENSE? IS NEEDED? COST? FUTURE ABILITY OF THE SCHOOL?

BINDU: INTERATION OPTIONS FOR ALL GRADES. HOW TO USE WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE TO IMPROVE ACHIEVMENT.

➤ Review of homework assignments:

- Blended Learning (Michelle & Brennan) *Michelle shared some of the research she found and is going to email websites for us to review for next mtg. Various models, students need access to internet and technology at home (cost money). Good resources on how to use technology now and more effectively. We can create manuals for teachers on technology use. Can we pilot a blended learning group? Michelle will pick Jen Applegate' brain about e-learning.*
Additional resources: <http://educationelements.com/our-services/what-is-blended-learning>
<http://www.knewton.com/blended-learning/>
<http://blended.online.ucf.edu/>
<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/blended-online-learning-heather-wolpert-gawron>
- College and Career Vision (Bindu) *Bindu working with Liz Johnson to get WPI involved in promoting math and science related activities for students. Starting the coding club for JA this year, and hopefully by next year WPI students can work with our students to promote college and career ideas. (I will have follow up conversation with Bindu in school)*

- Community Outreach/Partnership (Jamie) *Jamie has contacted the Worc. Public library, Friendly House, ACE and Centros Las Americas. Has left messages, and has had no response. Kim to follow up with Krista to see if she has other contacts for these. Once in touch with these places, Jamie wants to ask how we can connect with them, utilize their spaces, take part in their events and vice versa, and just find out basic offerings we may be able to take advantage of.*
 - Achievement (Jess & Brennan) *Jessica mtg. with the academic excellence committee to see if/when/how we might align with them on some projects, or if we're going in a completely different direction.*
- Yearlong calendar of events is being worked on. *Kim follow up.*
- DCAP research update: Michelle *Michelle currently reviewing SPED cases in her class, and she has found that most cases led back to the DCAP. She is researching other DCAP's particularly in "top notch" schools to compare and contrast them to ours. This is not a focus of the team this year, but Michelle is working on this project in her Masters class, s she will reports her findings/research to us when she has any updated information.*
- SAC calendar dates: 11/19, 12/17, 1/28, 2/25, 3/25, 4/15, 5/20 (If a date needs to change for any reason, I will send an email with the rescheduled date)

Other topics discussed:

April discussed the "bigs and littles" with the group. JA students will partner up with younger students and mentor, tutor and play with them. Students will need to apply for this position after reading the job description, will interview in front of a teacher panel, they will need resumes or a portfolio, must explain how they demonstrate the core values each day at Seven Hills, can have lunches together, ride bus together, go to one another's showcases. April will keep the team posted on progress and plans and will ask for help when needed.

Shared ideas about creative ways to get parent conferences completed with families that have not responded to any type of contact

- *Get them at events*
- *Invite students to stay after school and "help out" at events and get them when they come to pick them up.*
- *Go to students sporting events/practices and talk there.*

Red flag students of families that are extremely difficult to get on touch with and discuss this with next year's teachers so they are prepared and address the issue earlier.