

Lawndale High School

1/20/2010 Faculty Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Notes taken and prepared by Erica Harbison

CVSTA Representatives Present: Paolo DeGuzman, Kimberly Faulkner-Camacho, Erica Harbison, Julie Ichiroku, Erika Magana
Administrators Present: Damon Dragos, Kelly Santos

Meeting Time and Place

Scheduled for Wednesday, January 20, 2010 from 3:15pm to 4:15pm in the Principal's Office.
Actual start time – 3:20pm; Actual end time – 4:20pm

FAC Thanks

Committee thanked Dr. Dragos for the clarification of fire drill. According to D. Dragos, since it was a real fire it counts as a drill. D. Dragos will work with our Department Chairs for the 2nd semester fire drill.

Revisiting EdCode issue from last meeting regarding notification of teachers of dangerous students. According to D. Dragos, administrators have to tell us some things, but not all. Sometimes the slow notification process has to do with a delay in paperwork. Administrators will work on expediting the process. D. Dragos said to date we have no dangerous students just behavior issues. Any expellable offences are notified. Anything else is not relayed to the teacher because it's a matter of student privacy. If you do have a question about a student, you can ask and get information. J. Ichiroku brought up a concern about having dangerous students on campus and other teachers not knowing (like chaperones). D. Dragos said If you suspect a problem you can ask. It is a huge confidentiality issue because we can't profile and just because a kid makes a mistake once and serves their time, we can't continue to punish them for past crimes. K. Faulkner-Camacho asked about a no-go list for behavior, and D. Dragos said it then becomes an ACLU issue and he doesn't want any of us sued. J. Ichiroku piggy-backed about a no-go list. D. Dragos said we have one for attendance, but no one qualified for it this time. We run it every Monday. At semester every 10 tardies will result in SART because everything is reset. This also goes with attendance in general. They are running tardies now. E. Magana brought up Saturday school. D. Dragos said if they're tardy they won't come to Saturday school. D. Dragos said also we can't recover ADA on tardies, and they are looking into these issues for next year. The problem of course are most student with tardy and attendance issues also have academic issues.

Attendance issue brought to FAC member regarding multiple recording sheets and Power School

A FAC member was approached with the question, "Why do we still have to hand-record attendance and sign verification reports if we take attendance on Power School? It's like still doing the brown sheets. Wasn't the whole point of doing attendance on-line to get ride of the extra paperwork?" D. Dragos said the attendance issue is due to audit by outside agency. We get compensated for attendance. Despite electronic proof we still need an actual signature. The goal is to be able to do an electronic signature. We're not there yet. The requirement is an actual piece of paper for attendance (especially in emergencies) according to EdCode. It basically comes down to this being a hoop we have to jump through.

Issue Brought to FAC regarding the early release of students to lunch and at the end of school

P. DeGuzman asked who qualifies? D. Dragos said CVI kids, and they have an adult aide with them. No one else should be. D. Dragos is working on this, having delicate conversations about this with teachers. K. Faulkner-Camacho said one issue is the cafeteria will serve food before the bell rings. D. Dragos said one reason for this could be fundraisers. D. Dragos will talk to cafeteria workers but we don't have a manager right now. Ron is district and he's been helping out, but D. Dragos is trying to be respectful of all parties. D. Dragos said it needs to start with teachers not releasing early.

Responses on referrals

J. Ichiroku thanked D. Dragos and other administrators, on behalf of FAC, for their responses on referrals, but added that some teachers are still not receiving paperwork back. D. Dragos says if it's a detention it is returned after the detention is served and some kids blow detention off. D. Dragos said for teachers to go see the administrator they sent the kid to. D. Dragos said there was a minor breakdown in paperwork relay but that is fixed again.

Continuation of issues from the survey

Issue #1

Question #5 from the survey

I am aware of the current Tardy Policy

D. Dragos said it has been sent out and administrators will send a refresher for students and teachers at the beginning of 2nd semester. K. Santos said we can do a 4SR lesson again too. D. Dragos and K. Santos said they are still doing tardy sweeps.

Issue #2

Question #8 from the survey

Confiscation Policy

D. Dragos said teachers confiscate items and bring them to him. 5 school days later the kid can get it back. 2nd offense, the item is held for approximately 10 days and parent has to come in to get it and have meeting. 3rd time the item is held until the end of semester. This policy will be reviewed at 2nd semester like tardy policy. FAC suggested the policies be updated on website. D. Dragos said If the item goes unclaimed after a year it will be donated.

Issue #3

Question #13 from the survey

Administrators are actively visible on campus

D. Dragos said he's at every dance, there have been only two carwashes but they've not been at those. They do cover games, parent's night, etc. D. Dragos said they [administrators] are getting around.

Issue #4

Question #15

Graffiti on campus

D. Dragos said things are better on campus since cameras. There has been very little graffiti, but we've been able to clean it up.

*Side note....D. Dragos met with J. Fernandez about more tables. D. Dragos is working on it. Signs are coming, but Ali has been busy. Security and administrators have been trying to keep kids off stairs.

*K. Faulkner-Camacho brought up the gate being open by the cafeteria and kids being able to escape campus. D. Dragos said they're working on it, but they are not giving the key to 3rd parties. D. Dragos is not worried so much about escapees as people getting on campus.

*E. Magana asked about the cleanliness issue brought up previously. D. Dragos said it is much better with more trashcans and talking to kids.

Issue #5

Question # 10 from the survey

Effective communication with staff

E. Magana said maybe the issue is no response. D. Dragos and K. Santos said they both respond to all emails. D. Dragos also said he got J. Fernandez to authorize K. Santos and J. Jobs to forward emails as well, so that has aided in response time and frequency.

End of survey questions

P. DeGuzman said FAC will conduct a new survey for 2nd semester and bring results to next meeting.

Scheduled next meeting

E. Harbison briefly re-capped the meeting, and we set a date for the next meeting. Next FAC meeting will take place on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 from 3:15 PM to 4:15 PM in D. Dragos' office.

Any Issues Or Concerns that FAC needs to know?

Contact any FAC member with your concern or issue (via email or a note in our box) and we will add it to the list to be discussed during the next meeting (time permitting, but we will eventually get to it). If you wish to remain anonymous, please indicate it on your email or note.

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