

Redwood High School

Department Chair Council

Minutes of the December 5, 2007 DCC Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 p.m. Present: Karen Barrett, Fran Bozdech, Heather Curtaz, Chris Gilmore, David Goldsmith, Jennifer Harris, Ann Jaime, Skip Lovelady, Keith Murray, Nancy Neu, David Plescia, Greg Stevens. Parents: Elaine Bengle, Ashu Sikand, Suman Vyas. Students: Sarah Barr, Danielle Magaline, Beau Shaw. Peggy Bogason took minutes.

Minutes from the 10/17/07 DCC Meeting (Nancy Neu)

The minutes stand as submitted.

SB219 Real School Accountability (Nancy Neu)

Nancy Neu shared information about real school accountability and answered questions. The test scores of students at San Andreas, whose school of origin was Redwood, will now be included in Redwood's API score. San Andreas will also have a separate API score.

Career Tech Classes (Nancy Neu)

Nancy Neu shared that Governor Schwarzenegger is focusing on career pathways. There may be a push to add two career tech classes as a possible future graduation requirement. Mrs. Neu suggested that teachers might want to explore staff development opportunities in career tech fields. There is a conference in February. Department chairs should let her know if there are people in their departments who would like to attend.

Supportive Behavior at Rallies/Assemblies (Nancy Neu)

Nancy Neu commended the Leadership teachers for the quality of the recent rallies and assemblies. Unfortunately, Mrs. Neu received some correspondence from parents and students regarding the booing of the freshman class during the last rally. She said this will be discussed in homeroom before the March rally. Mrs. Neu also noted that the staff needs to take a leadership role at the rallies. One suggestion was to tie class behavior to that class's total score for their skit. Mrs. Neu asked that this topic be brought to the Leadership class for discussion and ideas which should then be incorporated into next year's planning.

Post Article Guidelines (Nancy Neu)

Nancy Neu explained that Lauren Howard and Jay Gilman have redesigned the layout of the Post, and they are trying a thematic approach. They will be offering several new services for teachers, including writing up news from teachers' submitted bullet points. They would also like suggestions for articles. The Post can include photographs, and it will now have a column to publicize and promote happenings at Redwood. Greg Stevens suggested that observing a TPRS classroom would make an interesting topic for an article.

Spring Final Exam Schedule (Skip Lovelady)

Skip Lovelady asked for the spring final exam schedule. Peggy Bogason distributed it to all present. She will e-mail it to staff tomorrow.

Additional Items

- Nancy Neu said the foundation's goal is to raise \$700,000 this year. Last year they brought in \$536,700. Mrs. Neu has been asked by the foundation for a wish list. Mrs. Neu asked the DCC to discuss possible school-wide projects for the wish list with their departments. Two examples of possible wish list items are completing the community fields and black-out shades for classrooms. Other ideas include air conditioning, a language lab, and photocopying.
- Mrs. Neu thanked Peggy Bogason for her years of outstanding service to the DCC. Mrs. Bogason has been promoted to the Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Trustees. She will start her new job in January.
- Skip Lovelady made "No garbage" signs which have been posted around school; the Bark included an article about school litter. Mrs. Neu noted that although there seems to be less garbage after lunch, a committee should be formed to create a process for making the students accountable for their litter. Mrs. Neu said that parents may be asked to help patrol at lunch; it is hoped that this would act as a deterrent for the students.

Meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.