

South Lyon High School
SIP Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2009

Present:

Staff Members: R.J. Webber, Lisa DelVecchio, Jill Blasy , Mark Nowicki, Joel Smigell, Paula Marken
Parents: Deborah Schlang
Students: Kevin Miller, Brock Mizikow, Andrew Sarpolis, Robert Swain, Colleen Harrison, Kristen Altenberger, Torie Agne, Scott Trumbo, Kevin Parikh, Jaclyn Schlang, Kaitlyn West, Devin Petricca, Lindsay Cocklin, Morgan Burnette
Absent: Mitch Rosekrans

The meeting began at 3:00 p.m.

The minutes from the December 17, 2008 SIP meeting were reviewed, along with the agenda for January 28.

Old Business

- Mr. Webber reminded the SIP committee that the “Pancake with the Principal” dinner is tonight and his vision is to create a community of support for students at SLHS.
- Kevin Miller discussed the progress of the A-Team and suggestions were given on how to further promote this program; posters, school wide email, and flyers on the lunchroom tables. Mr. Webber arranged for Kevin to speak with Mr. Mueller from the South Lyon Herald on the 29th in an effort to help promote this program to the community. Mr. Webber shared with the committee that the late bus has been approved and will run on Thursdays in the near future. The bus will leave at 4:30 and students will be required to sign up ahead of time. They are currently working on designating the bus routes and locations where the students would be dropped off.

New Business

- Class Assemblies were postponed because of the MIT visits. Ms. Del Vecchio asked SIP students to consider topics they would like to see discussed at the assemblies. Mr. Webber explained that the concept behind the assemblies is to delineate and clarify what SLHS is all about. There was overall agreement that the first assembly at the beginning of the year should remain in place as a focus on expectations for the year. Many suggestions were given for potential topics of a second assembly. A great deal of time was spent discussing the importance of the freshman class and what could be done to help them succeed; i.e., helping them understand the importance of GPA, how and where to get help when struggling and not waiting too long to ask for help, taking the required classes needed to graduate, understanding credits, and the possibility of linking upper classmen with the freshmen for support.
- Robert Swain read a statement, written as a “resolution”, he intended to send to the Board on behalf of SIP in regard to the AP classes that have been put on hold. Many students spoke to their concerns about the loss of these courses next year and how it would affect their course selection plans. Mr. Webber acknowledged the concerns of the students, and spent time explaining why these decisions are made. He noted many factors are taken into consideration. Decreased enrollment projections, which are occurring throughout the state, and the importance of being fiscally responsible as a district, are two key reasons for the district to need to make such decisions. The SIP Committee did not vote on the resolution read by Robert Swain, however some students chose to sign the statement to show their support of it.

Recent & Upcoming Events

- MIT visits scheduled for January 29th. Students interested in engineering have signed up to hear these presentations by MIT students, organized by math teacher Ms. Wild.
- NAEP (National Association of Educational Progress) is scheduled for February 5th. Some 12th grade students have been selected to take this test and are being notified.
- ASVAB Test is scheduled for February 10th.
- SLHS Curriculum Fair is scheduled for February 12th.
- The talent show has been rescheduled for February 13th, due to the cancellation of school on December 19th.

Student Council Update

- The video game contest held last Thursday after exams went well and fun was had by all.
- The Winterfest dance will be held on March 7th with a Techno Time theme, using lighting to decorate for the theme.

School Improvement/NCA

- Mr. Webber shared with the committee the importance of the Pearson data readers for grading exams and how quickly the teachers are able to receive data. Students commented that the new Pearson answer form was easier to use/more readable than the previous form.

Budgetary Discussion

- The new copiers have finally arrived and are working out very well!

Review of Emergency Procedures

- Mr. Nowicki confirmed that the PA's in the lecture hall have been adjusted making it easier to hear and understand any announcements given throughout the day.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Submitted by,
Paula Marken

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ADMINISTRATION

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