

Eugene IHS Site Council Minutes

Tuesday, November 18, 2014, 4:15-5:15pm

South Eugene High School, Room 538

Wade Powell, Catrina Steckler, Sydney Mathews, Janice Ketsche, Amy Duncan, Lloyd Madden, Mike Speiser, Marilyn Curtis, Brian Kuzma, Janell Schoellhorn, Kreg Hulings, Hannah Stupasky, David Inouye, Lubos Hubata-Vacek, Jessica Schabtach, Peggy Farris, Lisa Albrich, Jericho Schwab, Lisa Joye

1. Minutes Approved

2. Reports

- **Students:**
 - Had an Executive Meeting on Sunday. Students discussed the Penny Wars and where the money will go. The students came up with the idea to screen for where our money will be donated and pick the top 3 organizations. Then the class that comes in first will decide where the money goes. We also decided to give it all to whatever charity we decide.
 - Student Government is also getting ready for a student retreat.
 - A number of students and Mr. Powell also went to Oakway, having written letters to restaurants. We have increased support from last year so far, with all of the restaurants on board from last year, and now also Mio Sushi.
 - Also, to meet the demand, student government has ordered sweatpants as well as T-shirts this year.
 - One of the issues still on the table: how does our money from the IHS Celebration get used? We made \$3,000.00 last year. We were hoping to use it to reduce class sizes – do we want to use it the same way or in a different way this year? A discussion of how to use this money ensued.
- **Parents:** Met last night, with 11 parents and 1 student present. They had a great conversation about the nature and purpose of IHS Parent Council and about the potential future of the organization. There were a number of parents of 9th graders present, which bodes well for the future. Also, since the last Site Council meeting, we have held the Study Abroad Fair. It was very successful, with about 130 people attending. The parent group is working on becoming more of a parent-led parent group, with parents rather than the head teacher deciding on its meaning and purpose.
- **Staff:** We have had a number of staff, team and subject area meetings, with focus on both the IB Extended Essay (we're so proud of our 12th grade students, who are turning it in on this Friday), and also of how to support independent inquiry and research at the younger grade levels. In addition, we have had and are continuing to have a number of in-depth discussions about how to prevent plagiarism and how to support students in understanding what it is and how to avoid it.

3. IB Report:

- Marilyn reviewed the discussion of our school's IB Review from last Site Council – esp. mentioning the importance of the IB Goals regarding Leadership and Structure, Resources and Support, Collaborative Planning, our Written Curriculum, our Teaching and Learning and our Assessment. The general response to our review from IB was very favorable in most of these categories. They want us to revisit 2 aspects of our policies, which we are reviewing and resubmitting in March.
- Marilyn also shared statistics about IB Testing, which show us to be a very alive IB program with high numbers of students registering for IB Tests. We also reviewed student registration by subject. In the year 2015, we have a total of 235 candidate registrations, and 71 diploma candidates. The percentage of our students registered for IB testing has increased over the years. We discussed some potential reasons for this. The State of Oregon subsidized the exams more than previously, which may have been a factor. This led to a discussion of how to best financially support students in IB Testing. There is a lot of interest in talking further about ways to financially support IB Candidates.

4. Schedule and Testing Update:

- The 3X5 transition last year involved several committees as the District Level that worked on it. At the District level, there are now two 3X5 committees meeting. They involve some discussion of how to evaluate the effectiveness of the 3X5, and to address concerns. We are involved in these committees and have representation on them – Jessica and Marilyn are both attending them. Some question of whether or not there would be any schedule change in the upcoming September came up. The current answer is that this is incredibly unlikely, as assessment, implementation and organization would take much longer than that.
- Smarter Balanced: the District is trying to figure out how to deliver the Smarter Balanced Common Core Test equitably to juniors at the different high schools. We have had representation on several committees about that. Kreg Hulings and Emily Gerrity attended the teacher input session last week.

5. Site Council Priorities – we had 6 minutes to discuss what we want to focus on in future Site Council meetings. A couple of issues that came out of this meeting were how to further support students who are interested in IB financially and how to target fundraising. We brainstormed other ideas. Wade raised the additional issue of how to involve parents more and how to involve them better. Lloyd seconds this idea with a request for more of an attempt to tap the untapped potential of IHS parents. Marilyn would also like to support the idea of further parent involvement, not simply for fundraising, but also as advocates for IHS students and teachers. Other thoughts? Please email them to Jessica.

Our next meeting is December 9, when we will return to the regular schedule.