



SITE GOVERNANCE TEAM (SGT) MEETING

Date: 4/20/2022
Location: Virtual via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Members present:

	UCHS Staff		Parent Reps		Student Reps
X	Mike Paredes (Principal)		Chris Banta	X	Sheehan Chowdhury
X	Kelsey Bradshaw (Certificated)	X	Ruth Bush		Sarah Shinta
X	Elizabeth Frohoff(Certificated)	X	Andrea Lehman		
X	Jennifer Huszar (Certificated)				
X	Stephanie Conrad				
X	Marie Byrd (Classified)				
Other staff/guests present:					

CALL TO ORDER
Kelsey Bradshaw called the meeting to order at 4:34PM. Introductions were made.
PUBLIC COMMENT
No public comment.
SGT BUSINESS / APPROVAL OF MINUTES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from 3/9/22 were reviewed. Kelsey Bradshaw made a motion to approve the minutes. Stephanie Conrad seconded.
INFORMATIONAL ITEM: STUDENT PRINCIPAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SPAC)

Slurp committee. Students are working in groups to discuss various topics:

- 1) Student initiated policy to address harm when it's caused. Students are working on an online process. Staff members involved in the group: Cruz, Forbes, Bradshaw, Villalobos, Aleksic, Bristol. Student groups involved: Journalism, GSA. Topics discussed include: homophobic language, sexist comments, speaking with kindness, how to navigate harmful language when heard or seen. Purpose is to give students a process to speak up and advocate in a safe way.
- 2) Equity Team Land Acknowledgment. Members would like language to be incorporated in teachers' syllabi.
- 3) Media center upgrades.

AGENDA ITEM 1:

Bell schedule for 22-23 school year. Mr P reached out to the Area Sup't and the Transportation Dept about moving to an early out schedule. He learned that there's an agreement that was board approved and the schedule will remain in place until the 22-23 school year. He let the Area Sup't know that we want to be considered for early start times and early out for 23-24 school year.

Lunch times for 22-23 school year. Recommendation to move the lunch period to begin after Per 3 so that students can eat earlier in the day. Current lunch time is 1pm, on Late Wednesdays at 1:20pm. Suggested time for next year is 11:48AM on Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri, Wed at 12:24pm.

We may need to consider moving electives like ASB to 3rd period.

AGENDA ITEM 2:

Use of site bond funds

Music trailer purchase- There is currently \$90K in bond money. At the last meeting, we discussed using approximately \$15K of the school's site bond funds to contribute to a trailer purchase for the Music program.

Marquee replacement- We are still waiting for a bid regarding the cost to replace the marquee. It will likely cost \$45-50k. Members agreed to table discussion for now.

Media center upgrades- The space is being used for different purposes and there are suggestions to purchase movable seating, a cafe area, maker space, and genius bar. Centurion Room 424 is a shared space connected to the Media Center. It's a space that needs to be reserved ahead of time and is available to classes, clubs, and groups on campus. The room can accommodate up to 40 students and staff at a time. The space is currently being used for hosting meetings including college workshops, principal advisory committee, Slurp, Aaron Price Fellows, etc. The idea is to create a safe space on campus where kids can meet, a place for students to regroup if needed, between classes. If there is staff supervision, it can be opened during lunch. The room can also be utilized for testing and as a pullout room for students with IEPs and 504 plans.

Explore other avenues for funding some of these upgrades, such as EdUCate! grants and community contributions. There is an option to use civic center funds if available. Title I funds have restrictions on use and purpose of funding. Funding would be needed for paying supervision expenses in the morning and during lunch, and for supplies such as desk dividers, calculators, pencils. that can be stored in the room.

Motion was made by Kelsey Bradshaw to use \$20K in bond funds for Media Center and Centurion Room improvements. Sheehan Chowdhury seconded the motion. All in favor.

AGENDA ITEM 3: Concerns over Community College (CC) course offerings at University City High School

Jennifer Huszar shared her concerns about community college offerings at UCHS. and is asking for feedback at the next meeting.

Why we currently offer CC classes:

1. We all want what's best for students, and we want them to have as many choices as possible.
2. CC classes afford students new and different opportunities, new responsibilities, and they are free.
3. College is expensive. CC classes in high school are free of charge - including books and supplies.
4. The CC teachers do not factor into our site's FTE allotment. Thus, these are "free teachers."

Concerns:

1. Attendance

- a. The CC classes do not meet 5 days per week. When students do not have class, our site requires office staff and counselors to "babysit" them. This added responsibility costs our school valuable hours that these staff would otherwise be performing duties that are important to our school site.
- b. Professors often change class schedules and/or cancel classes. Who is accountable for the students during these times?

2. Accountability: There is limited accountability for the CC professors.

- a. Per the American Federation of Teachers, or AFT (CC teachers' union) our site's administrators cannot evaluate them or observe their classes.
- b. Students, parents, and counselors do not necessarily have access to progress grades (CC teachers don't use Power School). If a student is struggling, there is no safety net for them – even the student him/herself may not be aware that they are at risk of failing the class. And failing a class can jeopardize a student's ability to graduate, his/her admission to college, and/or his/her academic probation status upon entering college.
- c. CC professors do not have office hours on campus, and they are only on campus for their section - usually just a single class period. This means that they are not available on intervention days or for tutoring.
- d. CC professors are not part of our campus community. They are not privy to the activities and traditions that make up our school culture. They aren't part of our staff. They do not go to staff meetings or department meetings.

3. Class Content Redundancy: Some of the CC class offerings overlap with current classes offered at UCHS

4. The value of the classes: These are double-weighted *and* 5-point classes. That means that an "A" in a CC class counts twice on a student's transcript, and it is worth 5 points in their GPA. In the case

of English or Math, maybe this is reasonable, but should an A in an elective class like Personal Growth count more than an elective offering such as AP Art History?

- a. Students who would otherwise challenge themselves with a rigorous course like AP Art History are too tempted to go for the “easy A” in a class like Personal Growth. An A in PERG is easier to earn than an A in AP Art History, and it weighs twice as much.
 - b. How is this instilling a value in intellectual curiosity, or learning for learning’s sake?
5. **Master Schedule:** CC classes affect the main schedule in a variety of ways.
- a. As demand decreases for traditional high school classes, the teachers that teach them will be moved around to different subjects and programs, and ultimately, may be excessed.
 - b. This has killed programs that already exist at our school (AP Psychology, AP Art History, Arts Tech Academy)
 - c. As “free teachers” class sizes are smaller in certain sections. Some teachers are able to have resource periods.
6. **School Culture:**
- a. Decrease in the value of intellectualism - learning for learning’s sake
 - i. Attitude of, “What can I do to get an A? I will do exactly that. Nothing more. Nothing less.
 - ii. Intellectual struggle? Intellectual curiosity?
 - b. Students want to get an A that is double-weighted in an easy class regardless of whether or not the subject is edifying or intellectually challenging to them personally.
 - c. Commuter Campus atmosphere/Disconnection from campus
 - i. Students “voting with their feet” philosophy is flawed. We are the professionals and parents in the room. What is best for kids?
 - ii. Seniors: many have a home period and a couple of CC courses. They are hardly on campus. How can we cultivate a positive UC community when our best role models aren’t on campus? These kids are a really valuable resource when it comes to establishing and maintaining a positive school culture.
 - d. Teachers are better teachers when they are teaching something they are really passionate about.
 - i. Teacher burnout is real
 - ii. When a teacher has even just one class that is especially thrilling for them, it helps make the more challenging classes manageable.
 1. For example: A teacher who teaches five consecutive sections of 9th grade English vs. one who teaches four sections of 9th grade English and AP Psychology.

My proposal: In order to be strategic and selective when SGT brings on new classes, the committee will use the following protocol:

1. Admin and/or Counseling makes a proposal to SGT which outlines:
 - a. What is the focus of the class?
 - b. Who will the class benefit? How many students will benefit?
 - c. Why should this class be adopted at UCHS?
2. SGT considers the following:
 - a. Is this class, or a similar class, already offered at UCHS? We should only offer CC classes that aren’t already offered at the school.

- b. Could this course be taught by an existing staff member? Can an existing staff member teach this course? Is there a current staff member willing to teach the course?
- c. Is there a clear and compelling need for this class on campus?
- d. How will adopting this course affect our existing main schedule?

Develop expectations and guidelines for guest professors

- 1. UCHS designates a staff member liaison (Counselor),
- 2. Guest professors are on the staff email list, and be privy to minutes of appropriate staff/department meetings,
- 3. Guest professors offer office hours during the school day either on campus or virtually.
- 4. Guest professors read and sign our staff handbook, and adhere to the rules, procedures, and expectations of UCHS staff.

Mrs. Huszar would like feedback and comments at next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 4:

Land acknowledgement. Table for next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5:

AGENDA ITEM 6:

ROUND TABLE

NEXT MEETING DATE

May 18, 2022 at 4:30PM

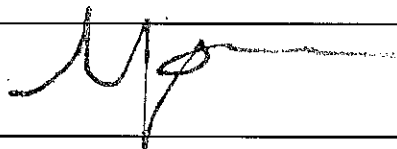
ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:34PM

Signed by :

SGT Co-Chairs: Sheehan Chowdhury Kelsey Bradshaw	Date : 4/20/2022
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Principal : Michael Paredes	Date : 4/20/2022
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Minutes prepared by : M. Byrd