

Meeting Summary SCPC

School Community Partnership Council – General Meeting

Date: 10/20/14

Location: Tucson High Magnet School Cafeteria, 400 N. 2nd Ave.

Call to Order: Bonnie Klahr, 6:00pm

Pledge of Allegiance: Bonnie Klahr

Attendance: Michelle Simon (Moderator), Bonnie Klahr (co-Moderator), Kristen Bury (School Board Liaison), Charlotte Patterson (Director of School Community Services), David J. Rodriguez (Metropolitan Education Commission Regional College Access Center and Wisdom Project Program Coordinator), and Designated SCPC representatives (see attendance record).

1. Introduction of Charlotte Patterson, Director of School Community Services

- Ms. Patterson discussed the most recent Team Member Update that is written by TUSD Superintendent H.T. Sanchez each week. A copy of the update was provided to all SCPC representatives. She reviewed the information in the update and explained how to access the Team Member Updates on the TUSD web site. Ms. Patterson accessed the TUSD web site and presented an overview of information available on the web site and how to access it.

2. Introduction David J. Rodriguez, Metropolitan Education Commission Regional College Access Center and Wisdom Project Program Coordinator

- Mr. Rodriguez presented a power point presentation regarding the services available through the Regional College Access Center. The RCAC has student ambassadors on the Catalina Magnet High School, Pueblo High School, and Palo Verde High School campuses to recruit and assist students apply to college. The Center's web site is www.metedu.org/rcac. Mr. Rodriguez discussed the information that the RCAC can provide to students who are interested in applying to college. There are counselors at the Center to assist students with applications, essays, scholarships and applications for student loans. Tutoring is available for the SAT and ACT exams. He provided numerous web sites that offer college scholarships. There is a RCAC blog that provides local, state and national scholarship opportunities.

3. Update on the TUSD Strategic Plan, Michelle Simon, SCPC Moderator

- Michelle discussed the Strategic Plan Update presented on September 27 to the community. The Update on Communications will be presented at the next meeting.

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- The curriculum is being aligned with the Common Core Standards across all grade levels. The principals are receiving professional development to implement the curriculum and professional development is being given to staff members at the school sites.
 - There was a facilities about the proposed installation of solar panels at school sites and the public meetings being held regarding the installation.
 - TUSD is creating the platform to merge software programs at the Administration Building.
 - Diversity is being addressed by implementing advanced learning for all TUSD students.
- Upcoming Strategic Plan Meetings are scheduled for November 15, 2014, February 21, 2015, and May 2, 2015.
 - There are concise versions and complete versions of the Five-Year Strategic Plan are on the TUSD web site.

4. General Discussion to Identify Priority Topics for 2014-2015 School Year, Michelle Simon, SCPC Moderator

- Michelle reviewed the process used to identify the list of priorities at the September 15, 2014 meeting. SCPC's role is to identify the concerns of the community and to offer solutions to those concerns.
- The concerns identified at this meeting were:
 - Hiring: TUSD is using a large number of long term substitute teachers in the classrooms. It is difficult for students to bond with the substitute teacher when they are not permanent. It is difficult for parents to support their students when the teacher is often being replaced. The members understand that it is difficult to hire quality teachers and substitute teachers, but the substitutes should be given training so that there is consistency in the classrooms.
 - Text Books: There are not sufficient textbooks for students. The textbooks are over ten years old and do not support the Common Core Standards. Teachers are making up the Common Core Curriculum because the textbooks do not address the standards.
 - Facilities: There is no consistency in the assignment of custodians to campuses. There is no follow-up in cleaning the sites. Garbage not being taken out. There is not sufficient staff to keep the sites clean.

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- Transportation: There is a lack of communication between the TUSD Transportation Department, the TUSD Administration, the bus drivers, the school sites and the parents. There is overcrowding on the buses and not enough monitors. There have been instances when the bus drivers did not know where to go.
- Staff Morale: There is not sufficient support for the classroom. Teachers are giving up their professional development time. Grading days are being used for professional development. The teachers' salary is based on test results, but the teachers do not have the support to teach the students. There is a lack of teachers' aides and interpreters.
- Discipline: There is a chronic problem with classroom and school discipline. TUSD does not have a consistent discipline rubric; principals are given too much control of discipline. Teachers are not getting the discipline support that they need.
- Parent Involvement: There is a general lack of communication. Notices are not given in a timely fashion; phone calls to schools are not answered. The school web sites are difficult to navigate.
- Effect of Charter and Out of District Schools: These alternatives are recruiting TUSD students by offering them what they think are answers to TUSD problems. These schools are offering earlier enrollment than TUSD, and our students are enrolling. TUSD needs to begin enrollment earlier.
- Food: The food offered by the school sites needs to be improved.

5. Discussion of Calendar for 2014-2015, Michelle Simon:

Michelle explained what the three alternatives are for the 2014-2015 calendars, and encouraged all members to encourage their constituents to vote on the TUSD web site for the calendar that they thought was best for the district.

Next Planning Meeting: November 7, 2014 at Administration Building, Next General Meeting: November 17, 2014 at 6:00 PM in the Pueblo High School Cafeteria

Meeting Adjourned: 7:53pm (Michelle Simon)

Summary prepared by: Bonnie Klahr 10/29/2014

Summary Approved: