

Lowell School Site Council Meeting

Monday, January 28th 2013, 3:45 PM, Room 134

This meeting was called to order at 3:45 pm by Tom Chambers, Chair.

I. Discuss/approve minutes for meeting of December 3, 2012 Mr. Williams suggested a punctuation correction in item V, section B. Xiaofan Wu moved to accept December 3 minutes with Mr. Williams' correction. Mr. Prutz seconded. The motion passed.

II. Public Comment – None

III. Committee Reports – None

IV. Old Business –

A. Status of meeting current Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) and/or items to be considered for SPSA revision. Mr. Chambers suggested that department reps should give feedback in student achievement. As the head of Math department, Mr. Chambers commented that placement in math classes is a challenge because some students come from private school with no math scores. For those who did poorly on the Math Placement Test/ CSTs, last summer PTSA funded a bridging program to help develop math skills. This reduced Fall Algebra D/F grades by 50%, although the program would have been more effective if more of the identified students would have attended. Ms. Innis commented that most English classes have more than 30 students, except Expository Writing. Ms. Melvin commented that it is hard to measure science performance based on CST scores, since sometimes students take courses that are different from the CST tests they take.

B. Committee reports for new SPSA – The question arose as to whether there would be revisions to the SPSA format this year. SSC members commented that there will probably be changes to SPSA, but the changes are unknown at this time.

C. Plan for public meeting to support SPSA rewrite. Mr. Ishibashi commented that he will try to put the Balanced Score Card on the March PTSA agenda.

D. Volunteers for SSC Summit on March 2 – Mr. Chambers explained that during the SSC Summit on March 2, the school will receive information about the Balanced Score Card and training. Any SSC member is welcome to attend or to volunteer. Mr. Ishibashi also commented that we should include small changes at Lowell on our Balanced Score Card, such as the Challenge Success group, sponsored by Stanford, which focuses on ways to help students release stress and reach their highest potential.

E. SPSA committees – Mr. Chambers announced that the committees for SPSA Goals One, Two, and Three will meet after adjournment to schedule meetings. Each committee must have a final draft of their goal so it can be distributed at the next meeting on Feb. 25.

V. New Business

A. Call for members of Parents' Election Committee. Mr. Chambers commented that the SSC needs to approve the Parent Election Form to stay on timeline. Mr. Jensen volunteered to be parent contact person.

B. Potential need for Special meeting on March 4 – The next SSC meeting will be on Feb 25th. SSC will decide future meetings based on Mr. Ishibashi's feedback on budget details.

VI. Adjournment (Next Regular Meeting – February 25)

Xiaofan Wu moved to adjourn. Mr. Ishibashi seconded and the motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 4:32 PM.