

## Lowell School Site Council Meeting

Monday, August 26, 2013

This meeting was called to order by Tom Chambers, Chair.

**Present:** Ishibashi, Abad, Adams, Bullard, Chambers, Darling, Fong, Innis, Jensen, Marten, Melvin, Prutz, Shepard, Wen, Williams, Winter; **Excused:** Dickey, Pollard, D. Wong; **Unexcused:** Aguirre, Hsieh, Lin, M. Wong

**I. Discuss/approve minutes for meeting April 22, 2013.** Mr. Jensen pointed out the need for a spelling correction of his last name. Also, it was noted that in the “Debrief for the Year” section, the word “sophomores” refers to students graduating in 2015 who are currently juniors. Mr. Ishibashi moved to approve the minutes. Ms. Melvin seconded. The minutes were approved.

**II. Public Comment**–none

**III. Committee Reports**– Parents currently have 3 members and 4 alternates up for election on the SSC. As of meeting time, there are five nominations. The deadline for submitting nominations is Tuesday, September 4, 4:00 pm.

**IV. Old Business**

- A. BSC/SPSA update proposals** – The SSC must update the BSC/SPSA with data from Spring 2013. Mr. Chambers presented updated sections on both Student Achievement and Academic Acceleration based on current CST and AP exam data. Suggestions in text changes and including participation rates in school climate surveys were made. It was noted that CST changes were coming with Common Core standard, but decisions on the courses tested have not been made by the State. Mr. Chambers recommended that all of the BSC/SPSA updates be reviewed again at the next meeting.
- B. Start of School and WSF Budget** – Mr. Ishibashi reported as of this week there are 647 general education 9<sup>th</sup> graders. Reg teachers have identified those students who have not showed up since the beginning of the school year. On Wednesday, August 28, an official count will take place during reg and those numbers will be reported to the district. Overall, the numbers are lower than last year’s projections, which may result in a deficit of WSF funds, but slightly above what the Principal had told department chairs to plan for based upon yellow card receipts. Some departments are seeking additional staffing although those decisions will have to wait until an official budget is received. Mr. Chambers pointed out that there should be an additional \$144,000 from AP testing although so far essentially nothing has been budgeted for supplies (usual amount is about \$200,000).

**V. New Business – Potential Re-establishment of the Facilities Committee**

Ms. Shepard proposed re-establishing the SSC’s Facilities Committee which was disbanded last year. The library is experiencing overcrowding and the shortage of space for students to congregate during their free blocks is a school-wide issue. Also, there is increasing demand by teachers for use of the computer labs, but no clear policy about which classes and programs have priority. Mr. Jensen volunteered to be on the committee. Ms. Melvin moved to form the Facilities Committee and Ms. Shepard seconded. The motion passed.

**Freshmen taking AP exams** – Mr. Jensen suggested encouraging freshmen who are bilingual to take the AP language exam so that they don’t lose fluency by waiting. Freshmen don’t know that they can take the AP exam without the course and instead wait to take it. Ms. Innis commented that some of the language AP exams are very difficult and require knowledge of literature, possibly making the exam inappropriate. The recommendation was made to refer the item to the World Languages department head.

**VI. Adjournment (Next Regular Meeting – September 9)** Ms. Innis moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Winter seconded. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned.