

**Westside High School
SDMC Meeting 9/11/19
Minutes**

In attendance: Tyrone Davis, Barbara Nassab, Shelby Steward, Colleen Stavinoha, Brock Silverstein, Peggi Stewart, Michel Hinton

Things that have gone well over the last 3 weeks of school:

1. School Spirit: Students enjoyed the pep rally!
2. Kagan Training: It's a set of structures teachers use to engage students. Teachers have been observed using the Round Robin, Rally Robin, #'s or arrows to shoulder with a partner.
3. Hallways are much quieter.
4. Seating arrangement, (extended space around each desk) is working well for students with Autism. It's a wonderful group of kids!
5. Buses are running more smoothly than last year. Only 4 or 5 buses late every day.
6. Student Scheduling: CD's: only minor drops. 150 students are in AP classes now.

Updates

Guidance Structure: Extra academic support or reinforcement scheduled for 45 minutes on Wednesdays and Thursdays. It provides a unique opportunity for intervention, advanced class support, mental wellness needs, academic competition, etc. Staff will begin setting up Guidance Classes in the next few weeks.

- CCMR: College Career Military Readiness: Career inventory, SAT prep, includes Khan Academy.
- AP, (NMSF): Top Tier Students w/50 pt work on high level math and reading.
- Academic Competitions: Culinary, Debate, Hosa, Robotics, Theatre, Visual Arts, ACT prep, Common Assessments.
- Content Reinforcement/Assistance: Precal, Chem, dyslexia, ESL, prep for STAAR, Grad Lab, Life Skills, Recreation and Leisure.
- ISS also has a Guidance period.
- Social workers: work on personal development.
- Westside has partnered with Ascending to Men. Assist students with making good decisions, coping with stress. Looking for volunteers/role models. It requires a weekly commitment.
- Other Guidance classes: Roses for Girls, Special Olympics, SAT prep, STAAR for first time test takers, Lulac, Executive STUCO, JROTC, Chick Fil-a Youth Leadership, Campus Beautification.
- If students pass the STAAR, the student is moved out of that Guidance class and into class. Students in crisis can also change to a Guidance class that will assist them.
- Assemblies over the next 2 weeks to explain to students. Teachers recommend students for a Guidance class but there a few guidance classes students can opt into.

Each class has about 25-30 students. It the 5th year with Guidance and teachers appreciate its importance. Though no grades are assigned, attendance is taken.

Enrollment

Projected 2873, actual 2877.

Cell Phone Policy

In response to teacher concerns, a new cell phone policy was implemented this year. Students are not allowed to use their cell phone inside the Academic Houses or in between classes in the houses. Students may not leave class to tend to cell phone business. Students are not allowed to pick up their confiscated electronic device; instead only a parent, or approved contact, may pick up the phone.

- It was noted not many students are on their cell phone but earbuds do persist.
- If a phone is confiscated, parents can pick up the phone from 2:30 – 4:00 after paying the \$15 fee. Parents are coming throughout the day, which is taking up a large amount of time. Possible need for an appeal form for parents who cannot come to school for special situations.
- Some teachers give extra points via the app Pocket Points. Students have to opt in and turn on the app.

Uniform Policy

Positive feedback overall that the uniform policy is being followed. The students like the new spirit jacket.

Student Support Center

Students with uniform violations are sent to the Student Support Center.

Transportation

- 4 buses continue to be late every day. Overall, it's much better than last year but teachers remark how disruptive late students are to instruction.

Newly elected SDMC members will be installed before the October 2019 meeting.