

Heights High School

Shared Decision Making Committee Meeting Minutes

January 16, 2019

Present: Principal: Wendy Hampton
Dean of Instruction: Jennifer Murchison
IB Coordinator: Cristina Bagos
Campus Instructional Technologist: Tisha Mesa
Librarian: Horace Shane Kenney
Teachers: Rebecca Ozuna, Mark Johnson, Christopher Walton, Natasha Cruz, Khoon Tan, Nicholas Jefferson, Isaac Chao, Michael Partridge, James Johnson
Community Members: Emily Cole, Dianne Holliman

I. Call to Order & Roll 4:12pm

- A. Shout Outs:** Thank you to Mr. Walton and Ms. Ozuna for creating a streamlined process for Saturday school, credit recovery and attendance appeal.
- B. STAAR Gains:** We saw 30% gains in the number of re-test students who passed the Algebra I EOC. Other subjects were not as high but there were slight gains in all areas.

II. Campus Updates

- A. Security:** Card access is up and running on gates and locks. The gate to the second floor parking garage is now secure. Those with access has a key card to the garage. Heights has one more challenge, bars are being pulled off a gate in the track area. We are working to secure it. The track is closed to the community unless there is school personnel on campus.
- B. Budget:** Last year Heights had a deficit of 500K. This year, we met our enrollment but our at-risk students decreased by approx. 400 students. Several schools saw large decreases in the number of At Risk students. Heights lost an additional \$50K from this year's budgets. Due to re-capture we are anticipating another round of heavy cuts to next year's budget.

C. **Staffing:** Mr. Hernandez retired in December, leaving an assistant principal position open. Mr. Uribe, our Go Center College Coordinator, took a district position as Academics Program Manager for New Teacher Pathways. Due to anticipated budget cuts, these positions are being closed. Should there be changes in current budget projections, we will consider re-opening.

D. **Attendance:** RHistorically Heights High School drops a full percentage point in attendance during the second semester. Last year our attendance was 95.3%. Right now our attendance is at 96.1%. If we can maintain our attendance through the second semester, it would add an additional \$80,000 to next year's budget. It is important for teachers to submit attendance on time (ADA time 10am) and for students and parents to be here in class.

III. Old/Unfinished Business

- A. **Exam Exemptions:** Teachers had questions about Spring Exam Exemptions and Ms. Hampton will further clarify at Early Release Meeting, Friday January 18, 2019. :
- a. Exemption policy was granted via custom waiver on SIP
 - b. When is the cutoff deadline for teachers when looking at averages for exemptions?
 - c. Teachers will check averages and sign off for their class.
 - d. They are also supposed to check the attendance but it was brought up that teachers can only see by cycle and yearly but not by semester. Also 3 tardies = 1 absence so that would be a lot for the teachers to track. Some kind of spreadsheet of students who qualify based on attendance would be good.
 - e. Students will have a form that will also need to be signed by Parent.
 - f. More information about format for finals is needed since a portion must be done on the day of finals. Especially for those teachers doing projects for their spring final.

IV. New Business

- A. **2019-2020 Dress Code:** SDMC will take a look at the Heights High School Dress Code policy. A survey will be sent to parents, faculty, staff and students for feedback on the following two options:
- a. Go back to the old uniform: Khakis, collared school colored shirts and spirit t-shirts
 - b. No uniform but a clear system in place to ensure students are dressed appropriately.

v. Upcoming Events

Jan 18: Early Dismissal for Students

Jan 21: School Holiday

Jan 22: PTO Meeting in TT

Jan 23: Community Meeting /Superintendent Search

Jan 26: Winter Graduation

Jan 26: First day of Saturday School

Jan 26: College GPS

Meeting Adjourned: 5:13pm

Next scheduled SDMC Meeting: February 19, 2019