

SHS Accountability Notes, 3/2/21

In attendance: Darcy Harris, Tracey Hill, Stacy Follet, David Blackburn, Janel Blackburn, Cheri Post, Tami Thompson, Cory Scheffel, Jodi DeMoss, Robin Nejame, Lara Wheeler, Lezlie Burkley, Donavon Paschall, Mandy Paschall, Kendra Smith, Jami Smith, Katy Post, Joni Baker, Torrey Lengerich, Erin Johnke

Agenda for the next meeting:

- Talking about the SAC responsibilities of the next meeting.
- Continue to discuss thoughts about the Freshmen Academy
- New Graduation Requirements
- Block schedule and budget
- Vote next meeting for the specific roles.

Freshman Academy documents links and a video recording follows notes.

SHS SAC Membership

CDE Guidelines for SAC Membership:

- The principal of the school or the principal's designee
 - One teacher who provides instruction in the school;
 - Three parents of students enrolled in the school
 - One adult member of an organization of parents, teachers, and students recognized by the
 - school; and
 - One person from the community.
- https://www.cde.state.co.us/accountability/district-accountability-handbook-2020_final_9-10-2020
- Ongoing issue of trying to find parents to be consistently on committee
 - Not always typical for teacher to be chair, but consistency has been nice
 - Must consider to aim for the goal versus expect to have the required membership for realistic expectations given SAC history at SHS
 - Consider reaching out to S.O.S.S. or S.A.B.C. booster club
 - New members: Susan Matthews, parent, and Stacy Follet, parent
 - Make Lezlie Burkley a community member
 - DeMoss voted to be SAC chair

Questions for Freshman Academy (FA)

- Did the SAC lose their role with giving recommendations for new policies? What are the roles of DAC and SAC here?
 - SAC is an advisory in nature to the high school. DAC is more of an advisory committee to the board.
 - We tend to use these committees for giving and adding to the input for their general values, includes input regarding finances, value systems, and processes
 - Going from the Master Agreement (MA) to policy takes awhile to put together
 - The SAC gives recommendations to the principal
- Losing Sheffel (dean position at the high school will not be replaced when Sheffel moves to role of admin at the FA) another issue for moving to FA
- Comments about Freshman Academy from District Accountability
 - Concern for pacing: Possibility of slowly phasing this into place versus it being rushed in
 - Can this be slowed down?
 - Finances: Responded to why and how this has happened:
 - FA is not for saving money but rather shifting money
 - Budget information will be available soon.

- More requests for community involvement, versus just updates
- DA does not want to wait till April
- Question for the advantage of Kesner building with freshmen?
 - Would this be just another 8.5-grade or an extension of 8th grade?
 - Not the goal
 - Have 8th-grade teachers been involved?
 - Not yet, but it is planned
 - Benefits of the building seclusion?
 - Nothing set in stone yet
 - Separate culture is very difficult to do within another building
 - Limited with options: Students need to be close enough to access electives and other resources within the high school.
- Freshman Academy link for FAQs with the FA (at the bottom of document with other links)
 - Published to the school website
- A lot of the responses will center around staff making recommendations
- FA Research Brief:
 - National Clearinghouse Data: We're around national average (60% matriculates, average of degree completion is 43%)
 - Try to reach those 6 out of 10 students not receiving a secondary training
 - Be able to help with the self-esteem pressures for the 14-year-olds
 - Ability to have this bonding and establishment of a culture
 - Can have a much more positive attitude climate and culture for students to become high schoolers without the initial social pressure prevalent in 9th grade
 - Lots of research-based benefits with the FA programming
 - Why wait? Why preserve the negative aspects of the freshman high school experience when we could provide a better environment?
- Continued concerns with the way in which this proposal has been ushered in:
 - Prior before action before the board: Did the board take the appropriate measures to ensure that we are doing this correctly? Example of the four-day week, the entire community was involved.
 - Can we have a do-over? Not a put the breaks on, but the same experience as we were able to have with the four-day week.

SHS Budget

- Budget is steady
- Retain for 20% after spring break
 - Holding onto a minimum of 20%
 - We don't exactly know what we'll need.
 - More information by tomorrow morning.
- High school budget does not leave a lot of room for changes
 - Ex. science is more expensive than social studies for reasons of supplies
- Can we have a comparison budget?
- Was Sheffel's position grant-funded? Will we need another dean after the FA?
 - Sheffel was one of four deans to help grow our own administrators to be able to allow individuals to pursue admin roles versus needing to look for outside applicants
- SHS has been asked to cut one position at the high school to save \$50,000
 - Decision to not cut but to absorb the position of interventionist
 - Process of planning with CMC able to receive some reimbursement from CMC for teacher's salaries of teachers who teach CMC concurrent enrollment classes.
 - Meeting with the board to note who will be teaching what
 - Currently have two CMC adjuncts teaching biology and college algebra
 - Grant money to help to accredit staff to be able to teach for CMC

- Staff must have a Masters with at least 18 credit hours in the course taught

Links for more information:

- [Video Recording of the Meeting](#)
- [Clearinghouse Data for Freshman Academy](#)
- [Freshman Academy and Redesign of High School](#)
- [FAQs for Freshman Academy](#)

Agenda for the next meeting:

- Talking about the SAC responsibilities of the next meeting.
- Continue to discuss thoughts about the Freshmen Academy
- New Graduation Requirements
- Budget
 - More information
 - Discuss options if there is more rescission
- Block Schedule
 - Quick notes:
 - 85% of staff and students support the block schedule
 - SHS will likely lean that way for the next school year's schedule
 - Considering an A/B Block
 - Popular with some meeting attendees
- Vote next meeting for the specific roles.
- Freshman Academy