EAST SIDE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENT ADVOCATES (AASA) NOVEMBER 15, 2011 6:00 p.m. OAK GROVE HIGH SCHOOL - LIBRARY

Present:

Mulugeta Habtegabriel Sharon Jackson Barbara Applewhite Victoria Awuzie Antoinette Battiste April Carr Helen Curtis April Davis Timothy Davis
Mimi Franks
Wm. Derek Grasty
Socorro McCord
Jean Nolley
Lana Olivas
William Rogers
Debra Watkins

Vince Proby
Patricia Martinez-Roach
Dan Moser
Mary Guillen
Martha Brazil

Ron Smith

1. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. AAPA President Helen Curtis extended a welcome to all in attendance at the meeting.

2. Approval of October 13, 2011, AASA Minutes of Meeting

Item carried to November meeting.

3. Early Alert System Status Report - Oak Grove High School Administration

There are three schools currently piloting an early alert system. All three are doing the pilot program differently.

Principal Martha Brazil provided the Committee a status report of the early alert system being piloted at Oak Grove High School. Per the WASC recommendation, Oak Grove is using School Loop as a tool for the early alert system. School Loop training is provided to staff during staff collaboration time. Also shared with the Committee was the 2011-2012 Oak Grove High School Calendar, which provides many important resources to parents.

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4. Outreach Efforts and Strategies to Engage African American Parents and Students – Oak Grove High School Administration

Principal Brazil shared with the Committee the following efforts being made to engage African American parents and students:

- Opened computer lab at Back-to-School Night to show parents how to access School Loop
- Provide printed copies of "reach out reports" to parents that are unable to access School Loop
- Invited parents to attend AASA meeting; Notification made through School Loop, postcards, flyers, Teleparent, school events, word of mouth
- Students invited to attend BSU meetings
- DeAnza College Invitation to Host African American Students –
 Oak Grove High School Administration & BSU Liaison
 - Update on Recruitment Efforts of African American Students to Attend Event

Vince Proby will be sending out invitations and permission slips.

6. How Can AASA Help Parents and School Administration in their Efforts to Engage African American Parents and Students? – Silver Creek High School Administration and Parents

Suggestions were made as follows:

- For mail sent to homes, help with the cost of postage
- Provide more staff support

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7. How can AASA Help Parents at Oak Grove to Navigate the Educational System and Provide Resources to their Children? – Oak Grove High School Parents

A parent indicated that there has been an improvement in School Loop. Another parent stated that School Loop is a great tool.

8. What Kind of Role can the District Play to Improve Home/School Communication – Oak Grove High School Administration and Parents

The following suggestions were made:

- District help with the cost of postage for the mailing of postcards
- Provide additional funding
- Provide incentives to students

Co-Chair Mulugeta Habtegabriel shared information as to how parents can access the African American Students Advocates (AASA) web page. Posted on AASA's web page are meeting agendas and supporting documents, meeting minutes, Vision, Mission, Goals, and the 2011-2012 meeting calendar.

http://www.esuhsd.org/Student-Services/African-American-Student-Advocates/index.html

9. Next Meeting Date

The next AASA meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2011, at 6:00 PM at Evergreen Valley High School, 3300 Quimby Road, San Jose.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 pm.