

MONARCH HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 7th, 2008

Welcome

Ms. Jusevic called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Jusevic led the pledge of allegiance.

Minutes

The minutes from our last meeting were approved and filed as is.

Principal's Report

Ms. Dilgen informed the council Professional Study Day waivers would be discussed with teachers on the next Professional Study Day. Teachers will vote if we should continue or discontinue with Professional Study Days. She also reported scheduling for the rising 12th grade students have started. She stated conferences will be held with the rising 11th grade students before the 10th grade FCAT. They will be informed in order to take electives they must "Show What You Know." In addition, letters went home today about "electronics" to prepare parents and students for next week's FCAT writes.

Ms. Dilgen informed the council of recent Monarch activities.

- a). The Fashion Show was a success yesterday.
- b). Monarch H.S. signed four football players this week. Andrew Smith was signed to the University of Miami, Jonathon Davis was signed to Missouri-Valley State, Kashawn Fraser was signed to Central Michigan University and Zack Poole was signed to Carson Newman.
- c). National Horatio Awards will be presented in Washington. Ms. Dilgen could not remember the exact number but she stated Monarch had between 7 and 13 winners of the limited number of awards, which are awarded.
- d). The DECA club took eight students to the National Competition.
- e). The PTSA is receiving an award in part to the hard work by Ms. Graber and Ms. Demby. They helped membership grow by a little over 5%.

Chair's Report

Ms. Jusevic reported yesterday during the School Board Workshop the following topics were addressed.

- a). No revisions will be made to the Homework Policy because the issues are already in the policy. All teachers must be aware of the current Homework Policy.
- b). A serious look is being conducted into block scheduling and if teachers should have the ability to set schedules. The District is in the preliminary stages of looking into all schools moving to rotating schedules.

New Business

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

Reading Department – Ms. Lavker reported:

- a). Objective five, four up from the bottom (reading workshop on weekly basis) is not going to be as effective as originally planned.
- b). All other objectives the department is working to fulfill.
- c). Pre, Mid and Post Fluency's are currently being administered in all reading classes. The Maze is not being administered at this time.
- d). The Reading Department will start to phase out timed reading. Research shows it is more effective to have students pace along with teachers.

Math Department – Ms. Demby reported:

- a). The Math department completed BAT in math classes and gave students feedback.
- b). Data from last year showed geometric thinking was student weakness in testing. The Math Department has created sections to address this weakness.
- c). A committee was created today to work on next year's action steps.
- d). FCAT camp started in Oct. with a strong student showing. The numbers have declined and the Math Department is trying to develop something different for next year.
- e). The Department has created two Intensive Math sections to address the lowest 25% of students.

Writing Department – Dr. Reynolds reported:

- a). The Writing Department is following the data in the SIP for writing.
- b). This years 10th graders will be the first year students who have to pass the FCAT Writing exam to graduate.
- c). The Department is looking into steps they can take to help students that do not pass. Ms. Dilgen stated there are no FCAT writing camps. Prompts are completed with students in their English classes and this data is put onto Virtual Counselor. Students not on level 4 are rotated in conferencing with writing coaches. Students found this approach to be very helpful.

9th Grade Reform Department– Ms. Graber reported:

- a). Students who need additional help are identified and Ms. Sweeting is notified and follows up on it.
 - b). Mentors go in classroom ½ hour each month and mentor ESE students.
 - c). 9th grade teachers participate in small group meeting and share instructional strategies.
- Ms. Sweeting stated we received a grant that provided the school with an additional teacher for Knight seminar. We will apply for the small learning communities grant again this year.

Science Department – Ms. Bond-Jackson reported:

- a). The Science Department has created an Instructional Strategies Calendar in addition to the Instructional Focus Calendar.
- b). The Science FCAT is on science students have learned from elementary school to present.
- c). The FCAT Science Afterschool Camp is in its third week. Enrollment has been 0 until today when one student showed up.
- d). 11th grade teachers are doing FCAT review the top 20 minutes of each class everyday.
- e). Science FCAT is 17% of the school's overall grade.
- f). Timed Reading is going to be used until the end of this year and the Science Department will look into something to replace it for next year.
- g). Data Chats were conducted by the Science Department. Teachers spoke to each student individually about FCAT scores, SAT/ACT, College and career plans.
- h). The Science Department has a word of the day which teachers pick words students can dissect. It leads students to learn parts of words that will help them learn new words.

March SAC Meeting – An agreement was passed within the committee to change the agenda for the March SAC meeting. We will have working committees and subcommittees on the SIP. Ms. Dilgen stated each department should come back with answers:

- a). What are several things they are going to do different and well.
- b). How are we going to move Monarch G.P.A., Graduation results, etc.?
- c). What are the next steps?
- d). Where do we go from here?

The student representatives voiced the following concerns:

- a). AP/Honors course students feel more attention needs to be focused on them and not just the FCAT.
- b). Can AP pass rate data be made available?
- c). The wrestling team coaching staff/budget.

Ms. Dilgen stated the AP pass data can be made available and she will look into the wrestling team's situation as it was just brought to her attention earlier that day.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted
Tammy Freeman