

CHS Readers,

The last two pages were inadvertently left off of the previous posting. Missing was Eric Wright's description of the upcoming changes in graduation requirements. Minutes are re-posted here in full.

Carol Hennessy

Secretary

Questions or comments please reply to chenness@peak.org

January 15, 2008

Parent Connection Meeting Minutes

Alesia Duncombe: Listserv moderator report

- 983 subscribers
- 108 messages so far this school year
- Early Jan. there were two consecutive days with "2 hr. delay". On the second day we had the message out on listserv 40 minutes before the district phone line!

Mary Jo Chapman: Treasurer report

- Sponsorships \$2,100 (families who contributed to Parent Connection this school year at approximately \$15 apiece)
- \$650 raised with e-scrip (will start promoting more)
- Expenses: printing school directories and hiring Spanish translator for Spartan newsletter.
- Approximately \$7,000 in account. Interesting conversations are in progress about where to apply the money.

Suzanne Dalton: Principal's report

- Open Forum after school this afternoon hosted by our 2 assistant principals. A student initiated the request. It will provide an opportunity to listen and learn from the students. Students will be encouraged to offer written comments as well.
- Blou Carmen, post interview process, will teach psychology second semester. She will be replacing Jim Dort.
- 6:30 p.m. this evening will be a neighborhood silent vigil near the CHS rock in support of inclusiveness and diversity. Publicized in the Gazette Times and inclusive of all, including CV. Co-hosted by the CHS Gay Straight Alliance (GSA)
- CHS administration attention continues to be focused on Pierce Street and school policy regarding tobacco and drug use on and or near school. Upcoming will be a school review of policy and more strict enforcement.
 - Policy: 1st verbal warning (while in the act of)
 - 2nd warning letter
 - 3rd could move toward suspension. Might include 5-day drug and alcohol treatment program. We also have a staff person willing to work with students to help them quit.

- Student use of tobacco, drugs and alcohol is not unique to our school or these times.

Donna Keim: Wellness Council

- 3 years ago while serving on school board recognized 3 areas of importance: building safety, physical education, and nutrition.
 - Established the Wellness Advisory Council.
 - Each school has a committee which is comprised of students, parents, staff and administration
 - [Looking for 2 CHS parent volunteers to sit on our committee.](#) contact: **Donna.Keim@corvallis.k12.or.us**
 - CHS committee will meet about 1x every 5-6 weeks
 - Goal for each school is to accomplish 3 – 4 improvements next year and implement 1 improvement by the end of this school year.
- START is breakfast program at elementary schools. Considering providing some nourishment during the 1st break at CHS and perhaps include some nutritional information.
- Annual scholarship run along Willamette. Considering trying to include a health fair. Many people mill around while they wait for their event to begin.
- District Wellness Council meets 2x/semester

Cathy Wright: Career Education Specialist

- Goal is to implement state mandated program identically at CV and CHS
 - Cathy meets often with the Career Education Specialist at CV
 - Works closely with Donna Keim at CHS; each bring previous experiences that complement the implementation of the project
- **Personal Education Plan and Profile**; every student in Oregon is required to have a PEPP
 - CHS students will begin to fill out during 2nd term in advisor. “Students develop a plan and profile to guide their learning and document progress toward personal, career, and post-high school goals.” (Handout: Corvallis School District 509J, 12-20-07)
 - **Career Related Learning Experiences**
 - Set of tasks to be accomplished for each grade level
 - 9th grade: Occupations Exercise (CIS – computer program)
 - Career Paper (not this year)
 - Resume Workshop (not this year)
 - 10th grade: Skills Assessment (CIS – computer program)
 - Resume Building
 - Job Shadow (All 10th graders will be required to do this)
 - **Extended Application:**
 - “Students apply and extend their knowledge in new and complex situations related to the student’s personal career interest and/or post-high school goals through critical thinking, problem solving,

or inquiry in real world contexts.” (Corvallis School District 509J, 12-20-07)

- An example might be a student who is interested in becoming a teacher. Student works at Outdoor School and returns to write a paper about how the experience impacts their understanding and desire to become a teacher.
 - 11th grade: **Extended Application** (includes CIS – computer program designed to give student ideas where to focus)
 - Career Speakers
 - Mock Interviews
 - Resume Building
 - 12th grade: **Extended Application**
 - Group Advising
 - Resume Building
- Program will be gradually implemented. Will meet requirements only partially this year. Program requirements became effective for graduating class of 2007. This year there was money in the budget to hire someone to help students meet these requirements.
 - Advisors will be trained to assist students in meeting some of these requirements.
 - Cathy has met with some 9th grade students during Study Hall and 10th grade students during Health 1.
 - Each student will have a PEPP and records will be kept to assist each student to meet the requirements.
- **Career Related Learning Standards**
 - Some already provided in curriculum:
 - Personal Management
 - Problem Solving
 - Communication
 - Teamwork
 - Two will be provided during **Career Related Learning Experiences** (as well as by the curriculum).
 - Employment Foundations
 - Career Development

Q: Will my student have the opportunity to meet these requirements before graduation?
(A question asked by parents of students in various grades and situations.)

A: It will take time to implement the program. Since each student has an individual profile we will be able to track who has completed which requirements and who have not. Students who have opted out of Study Hall or taken Health 1 online will be contacted.

Q: How can we know more about what will happen in advisor?

A: February Parent Connection’s topic will be a presentation about the new content for Advisor. (February 19th PC meeting will be at 7 p.m.) There will also be an article in the

newsletter. Staff members are in the process of being trained. The second part of their training will be during staff in-service day, February 1st.

Q: Perhaps Parent Teacher conferences might be a time parents could access information on their child's PEPP? (Each child will have its own folder with a Personal Education Plan and Profile.)

A: Excellent idea. The district is also working to put together an electronic portfolio so parents, students, teachers and administration can all have access.

Comment: Colleges ask counselors to rate students on these qualities.

Comment: In the past, transcripts have given students career credit for time spent in advisor. In the future credits will be earned by completing this process.

Eric Wright, Assistant Principal: Changes in High School graduation Requirements

Beginning 2008-2009 CHS credit values will be cut in half. This will be more in line with what the Oregon University System expects and is the way many other high schools currently value their credits. (Typical classes will earn 1 credit instead of 2 and overall credits to graduate in 2009 will be 22.5 instead of current requirement of 45.)

Year 2010 English and Math graduation requirements will increase for all students in the state of Oregon. Students will be required to have taken 4 English and 3 math classes. (2009 requirements are 3 English and 2 math.) Overall credits required to graduate will increase to 24. (28 credits are possible.)

Year 2012 Science requirements for all Oregon students will increase to 3 required lab courses. (Any of our currently offered science courses would fill this requirement.) [509J Chart also shows "Second Language, Arts, Professional Technical Education" increases from 2 to 3 credits.]

Year 2014 (current 6th graders) entry level Math requirement changes (for all Oregon students). 3 years of math will still be required but the 1st class that satisfies a math requirement must be on the level of Algebra 1 or above. Pre-algebra, if needed, will earn credit as an elective. Efforts within the district are currently underway to prepare students for this change. Curriculum modifications will need to take place at the elementary and middle school levels for the majority of students to be ready for Algebra 1 by high school.

- More applied math classes will be added. Math as applies to business, or computers or ?
- This will necessitate more teacher resource in the math dept. When number of teachers increase in one dept. they usually decrease somewhere else.
- Students who can't meet this higher-level math requirement would receive a "modified diploma".

Overall impact of the graduation requirement changes will mean fewer elective credits. [Currently 7 required with 12 ½ possible. Year 2012 -- 5 ½ elective credits required with 9 ½ possible.]

Q: What might this mean for music and theater classes?

A: If our funding remains the same something will have to give.

Q: It used to be if a class was not full a student could add the class and take more than 14 credits. Now they can't.

A: More credits translate to more money. Students cannot take more than 14 credits.

Q: If there is space in a class could a student use study hall or open block time to meet some of these additional requirements?

A: This is a time of accountability, which has some advantages. It enhances fairness. It also creates more rigidity, which locks people out of the flexibility that was there before. There are also two values in opposition: smaller class sizes and filling open blocks with classes.

Post session Eric comment: A block schedule permits many fewer class conflicts. With a traditional 7 period per day schedule a student might not be able to take music, science, 2nd language and a specific math course due to scheduling conflicts. The open block system adds an opportunity to do homework during the school day, or research in the library, or meet with a group for a class project. Some schools choose a shorter day, 8:00 - 2:30 p.m. With our block system we have incorporated all the class time offered within a traditional non-block schedule plus the open opportunity time. The students are not getting anything less because they have an open block.

Display cases assistance is requested. Someone willing to search out and find various items related to specific themes would be the job description. We have a person willing to take the items and create a pleasing display. If interested please contact Carrie Thompson.

Please contact Carrie Thompson, chairperson, with ideas and requests for future Parent Connection meetings. csthompson@peak.org

Next Parent Connection meeting: February 19th, 2008 in the evening at 7 p.m. Meetings are always the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Location within CHS to be announced. **Topic: Advisor Program at CHS.** [This program is separate from the counseling office and relates to the ½ credit earned in Career Education each year.]