

MONARCH HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 2, 2010

Welcome

Ms. Jusevic called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Ms. Jusevic led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of Minutes

The minutes from our January meeting were reviewed and filed as read.

Principal's Report

- The scheduling for the 2010-2011 school year has started.
- The FCAT Writing test will be in February. The students this year will be tested with their language Arts teachers wherever possible. The rest of the school will continue business as usual.
- Also this year we will have a total of 3 writing assemblies to give students last minute writing tips before taking the exam.
- Monarch will be hosting its first Sadie Hawkins Dance. Ticket sales have gone well.
- Monday February 15, 2010 is no school.

Chairs Report

- Bill 1403 passed. The enhanced quorum (50 plus 1 parent) will no longer be a requirement for SAC. All that is needed to conduct business will be a quorum.
- Philippe Cousteau is in Florida and spoke at Sunshine Elementary about Science education. Sunshine Elementary was the one-millionth click on the Discovery website.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

Automatic scheduling

- Mr. Neer indicated that information is still forthcoming regarding automatic scheduling of core classes for the 2010-2011 school year. Monarch will review the information and determine the best approach to schedule the students as well as get input from parents.
- Ms. Jusevic informed that group that a Facebook page has been developed by students to protest automatic scheduling. She also indicated that the automatic scheduling should not have been rolled out to the rising seniors.

(Please turn over)

- Mr. McIntyre explained the rubric that will be used and told those present that it uses a combination of test scores, grades, and prior classes. The goal is to get the students to take more rigorous classes.
- Ms. Szymanski indicated that this process would encourage students and give them more opportunities. If the student is looking at college she said it would not hurt to look at classes with more rigor.

School Improvement Plan Update

Math – Tutoring is continuing on Mondays and Wednesdays after school. There will be a 10-day push before the FCAT exam. Student motivational speakers will go to the 9th and 10th grade math classes to tell the students to take the exam seriously.

Science – The science department is continuing its goal to increase the enrollment in Advanced Placement and Dural Enrollment classes. The teachers in each area work on the 5 essential questions and labs and have hands on activities for the students to understand the material. There will be a 3-day intensive review for the science FCAT exam the week before the test will be given. The timed readings are still being done and science will also continue to help with the writing.

Writing – The Writing Coach is will continue to pullout students not in English to assist them with their writing skills. Writing assemblies are planned the week before the writing test to give the students last minute tips to help them perform well. The writing focus will switch to 9th grade and the 11th and 12th graders will work on ACT and SAT writing preparation.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Moira A. Sweeting