

CAAC meeting notes for 11/8/2011

Marjorie, Caitlin, Hope, Serena, Joel, Charlie, Lauren, Gina, Sonia, Susan in attendance.

Meeting start: 4:18

- I. Review of "dashboards" set by the board (includes test scores & school improvement plan)
 1. Board of directors wants to have a dashboard that helps us to track the school's performance.
 2. We now have on the website tables compiled from state data to demonstrate CA's performance on end-of-level assessments.
 1. CA is doing well and getting better.
 2. Still some performance gaps among populations traditionally considered "at risk"
 3. Odd dip in proficiency in 2010
 3. New state grading policy will soon boil all of this down to a single letter grade looking at student progress, graduation rate, overall proficiency rates, and several other factors.
 4. Looked at draft version of dashboard standards and goals
 1. Goal one is growth
 1. Students not entirely comfortable with the idea of strong growth – suggested a cap of 200 students for the building, no second building
 2. Concerned about diluting or losing culture
 3. Loss of individualized attention
 4. May lead to a loss of civility in the population
 5. Teachers divided on whether growth affects workload
 6. Parent experience indicates that growth can negatively impact students
 7. The school needs to grow in order to sustain itself
 8. Recognized need to manage growth carefully to maintain culture and accessibility.
 9. Starting to brainstorm how to keep students involved in perpetuation culture and feeling invested and empowered in the school
 2. Proud of the personal fitness measure as part of the wellness plan commitment
- II. Need to improve parent access to meeting minutes
 1. Add a link to the newsletter indicate what topics were discussed at each meeting.
 2. Parents who click on the link will be directed to a page that indicates which parents should contact which council members
 3. Newsletter should have a list of the alpha-split one time to make sure that everyone has seen it
- III. Making a Difference open houses
 1. Parent feedback was that the tours in the past were a bit hectic and lacked a personal feel. Perhaps having older students meet the group would help prospective students feel more welcome and comfortable.
 2. Lots of enthusiasm, but not a lot of new information

3. We will be running the program again every Nov 29th and every Tuesday night (except Valentine's) in the new year. Event starts at six and lasts one hour. Volunteers should arrive at 5:30.
 1. To encourage new students to attend CA
 2. To raise community awareness in order to eventually foster fund raising. Current families could bring friends and relatives to spread the word.
 3. Looking for parents to volunteer to meet prospective parents and greet them, act as a resource
 4. Mr. Orr (Gareth) will organize the student component
 5. Private tours available by appointment
- IV. Review Land Trust budget and form signing (tabled until next meeting due to technical difficulties)
 1. Students suggest the following: a new electronic piano, more emphasis on academic performance (fewer students should fail classes), new wall color
 2. Students would like to see more funding for the theater program. It is popular among the students and shows a different side to our community.

Meeting end: 5:30