

New Dimensions High School SAC Minutes

February 5, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Amanda Persaud at 6:00 p.m.

In attendance

Amanda Persaud, Ralph Barrett, Dr. Grimm, Parents, Staff, and Students

Agenda

- ESOL Leadership Presentation
- Title I Compact Review and suggestions
- Title I Parent Survey
- Title I Parent and Family Engagement Plan review and suggestions
- Open Issues / Comments / Events
- Adjourn

ESOL Leadership

Mrs. Persaud introduced Mrs. Sanchez, the NDHS lead for the ESOL placement program. Mrs. Sanchez conducted ESOL presentation using a PowerPoint, explaining how students are tested with ACCESS and the purpose of ESOL placement. The testing will begin on February 18, 2019.

Mrs. Sanchez explained the different areas that students are tested: listening, reading, writing, and speaking. The test, she explained, measures advancement in language acquisition. Students must score a 3+ on ACCESS test as well as a 3+ on the FSA reading to be exited from the program.

Following the Power Point presentation by Mrs. Sanchez, Mrs. Bird, the ESOL paraprofessional, explained how our ESOL students are served at NDHS by the staff:

- Helps with language skills, homework, projects, essays, etc.
- Monitors students during activities
- Teachers work with Mrs. Bird so she can understand what the classroom needs are of the student(s)
- Motivates students as new students are very insecure in their abilities to learn the language

Mrs. Bird introduces three ESOL students, at different tiers, to explain how they are being served. The first student was at a higher level. She explained how Mrs. Bird assists her in learning and how she motivated her. The second student was at an even higher level and finally, the third student, was at the lowest level and was assisted by Mrs. Bird to help him explain. He was very grateful for the assistance of Mrs. Bird and the help his teachers give him.

The floor was opened to questions. Parents asked how they know which tier their student is on. How do you know who is ESOL. Mrs. Sanchez addressed the questions explained that students are tested within the first 10 days at New Dimensions High School to determine ESOL eligibility and also which tier students will be placed. She indicated that sometimes students can speak and read, but that does not always mean that they can comprehend the content – thus the reason for testing. Parents asked what they can do at home to help. She indicated that parents can help by emerging the family in the language and culture through TV, music, speaking. The message was if the student wants it, they can do it.

Title I Compact and survey –

Mrs. Persaud explained the compact and parent survey. She asked each person to respond to the survey and make comments and note any suggestions for the Compact. Mr. Barrett collected all surveys and Compacts.

Parent and Family Engagement Plan

Mrs. Persaud explained the process for gathering input from parents/students/staff. She divided the group into 6 groups and gave them a PFEP topic to review. Parents took 20 minutes to discuss their individual category and to give input:

- o Involvement of parents
- o Building Capacity
- o Communication
- o Staff Training
- o Accessibility
- o Barriers

Mrs. Persaud suggested using the data sheet (in their packet) gathered through a previous parent survey from first semester, to help drive their suggestions. Mrs. Persaud explained that the information that the parents/students/staff shared with the SAC committee will be incorporated into the PFEP. At the next SAC meeting the PFEP plan will be presented and will be approved for submission to the Title I compliance department at the district.

Open Issues/Announcements

None

Next Meeting

March 5, 2019 at 6:00pm in the auditorium

Adjourn –

Motion was made to adjourn by Mrs. Barrett, seconded by Mrs. Spangler. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Minutes taken by – Dr. Grimm