

LSC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Held in the Library, Amundsen HS



AMUNDSEN
Local School Council

The meeting convened at 6:13pm.

In attendance: COHEN, D’ALESSIO, JOHNSON [arrived 6:38pm], NEWMAN, PAVICHEVICH, REED

Not attending: CHINCHILLA, KARASTANOVIC, MUÑOZ, NAEEM, PEDERSEN, VEGA

There is one vacant parent seat. As of this meeting, Ms NAEEM replaced Ms RODAS as student representative. The council did not had a quorum in attendance. Due to the lack of a quorum, all formal business was deferred to the next meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ms PAVICHEVICH wished Ms D’ALESSIO a happy birthday.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Our final official attendance exceeded 90%. The freshman on track rate was also good.

We had a 31% increase (to 17, of 40) in the number of IB diplomas awarded. We also had a 67% pass rate on IB exams, far above the CPS average. Pass rates by exam:

Spanish (advanced)	100% pass
Spanish (standard)	94%
English	98%
Art	90%
Math	56%
History	49%
Biology	29%
French	27%

Our AP classes are not achieving similar level results in passing grades. The overall pass rate is around only 2% for AP exams. We hope to move away from AP classes anyhow, transitioning to dual credit courses (where students earn bona fide college credits for passing a rigorous college level course, instead of having to sit for a test to earn the credit).

Mr REED suggested that the difference in results between IB and AP is self selection among students — the top kids are enrolling in IB, and the AP classes are populated by the second tier of Amundsen students. The lack of passing results on the exams is a reflection of this. Ms PAVICHEVICH rejected this explanation, and felt that students in AP classes are not different from the students in IB. All agreed research indicates it is nevertheless generally good for the students to be exposed to the AP curriculum.

We made some staffing changes (primarily cuts) over the summer. A handful of positions were terminated involuntarily, although some of those personnel were aware of the pending changes and were able to secure other positions elsewhere already.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:46pm.