

Palmer SAC Minutes
October 11, 2018 7:00 – 8:29 am
in the Palmer Community Room

<u>Parent Members</u>		<u>School Members</u>		<u>Community & Student Members</u>	
Deirdre Aden-Smith (chair)	x	Michael Chamberlain	x	Michelle Elstun	
Tom Remick		Kandy Claybaugh	x	Robin Hammitt	x
Carl Schueler (DAC)	x	Lara Disney	x	Bailey Larson	x
Kathy Solomon (secretary)	x	Dan Geiser	x		
Jaqueline Dowds Bennett	x				

The meeting was called to order by Deirdre at 7:05 a.m.

1. District Accountability Committee (DAC) report (Carl)

The last DAC meeting was focused on graduation requirements.

The Budget Subcommittee is discussing AP/IB costs and resource/administration challenges.

Capacity committee

- District wide, we lost almost 800 students since last school year. They are looking at “stranding”, where each school has its own brand and own offering that attracts people. What different programs attract and retain students? Lara explained that the Dr. Thomas shared that they will be doing a demographic study to see the needs and wants of the area. She recommends a IP Primary Years Program (PYP) be established at a downtown corridor elementary school.
- Lara shared that Palmer has students permitting in from Harrison School District (typically want stronger academics) and Cheyenne Mountain (typically want diversity). D11 students attending Palmer come from various middle schools, including North (IB MYP), West (sometimes these students go from Midland PYP to Gifted Magnet Program at West), Swigert, Sabin (GMP), with very few students coming from Jenkins and Russell.
- Doherty is getting AP Capstone, which has similar requirements to IB.

2. Agenda was approved with reordering.

3. Alumni Report (Robin)

- *Broken Circle* - Sherriff Elder lit the second pot. There was very good turnout at this event from the alumni association (7 attendees, double the 3-4 alumni that typically attend), possibly because the broken circle took place earlier than usual. (Due to cold weather, the Broken Circle was rescheduled to before the powder puff game, rather than after as originally scheduled.)
- *Homecoming Car Caravan* - The Alumni Association paid for 10 corvettes to take the homecoming court to the football game.
- *Alumni Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony* – Lara Disney, Dr. Michael Thomas, and Clara Hoellerbauer will present the awards Saturday.
- *Champagne brunch* - all set for Sunday.

4. Minutes from September meeting were approved with corrections.

5. Principal's Report (Lara)

- *Homecoming*
 - Miracle Minute donations are being taken for a student in need; the student's name has not been shared.
 - Homecoming Assembly at ERPS gym on Friday
 - Car caravan from auxiliary gym to Gerry Berry stadium for the football game
 - Crowning of homecoming king/queen during half time of the football game
 - Homecoming Dance is Saturday night. Theme is "In the mist" (space). Students will use student IDs to scan themselves in for the dance, and guests will be checked in. There's a "clearing process" for students who are not eligible due to attendance at classes or having obligations.
- *Colorado English Teacher of the Year* - Erica Rewey was recognized by the national council.
- *WW II Memorial* - Sean Wybrant obtained a \$15,000 grant to create this.
- *NHS Blood Drive* is scheduled for 10/16-17, and almost all of donors signed up are students.
- *Quarter 1* ends this Friday, and Monday is a teacher workday. Quarterly report will be sent to BOE about Palmer students' progress towards graduation.

6. Common Assessment

D11 is working toward a common assessment for all high school students. Since the state assessment for high school is the SAT/PSAT, D11 is leaning toward using Khan Academy and Naviance rather than using Galileo (which is preferred by EDSS dept).

7. Tutoring

Students were scanned into the math tutoring center 1500 times so far this school year. Science and English tutoring are happening as a pull-out from Study Skills class and seems to be going very well. This year, the Science PLC is on board with tutoring, so science tutoring is more effective.

8. Assessments Versus Assignment Grades (Lara)

In 9th grade English, teachers are using standards-based assessments (rather than giving assignments a grade); at junior level, teachers ask students what grade they think they deserve... This makes students more effective, but it is difficult to run reports to determine which students to pull to tutoring center. Teachers have to provide feedback to students.

9. D11 Concurrent Enrollment (Michael)

Palmer offers both CU Gold and [CU Succeed](#). Most of these courses are only offered in the spring, but CU Succeed chemistry is both semesters. The majority of students taking these CU courses will probably also register to take the corresponding AP exam. Last year there were a total of ~124 students taking CU Succeed: Computer Design, AP US History, Calculus, Statistics (41 students), Music Theory (2), Spanish (16, but not offered this year). Colorado requires that CU teacher must have a masters degree in their content area; Palmer currently has some teachers grandfathered in.

10. AVID (Michael)

AVID pushes to have each student take at least one honors or CU course. AVID is booming, with 5 sections this year. Last year, 100% of AVID students received at least one college scholarship, and 100% of AVID students translated to college.

11. Career Pathways (Lara)

Mitchell and Palmer high schools send students to Career Pathways at Wasson. Doherty sends no students to Career Pathways. Counselors educate students about their options regarding Career Pathways.

12. Open House / Back to School (Lara)

“Terrors together” is the new name for the rebranded Open House that was held in September. Participation was moderate. Turnout at Open House has been declining over the past few years. Feedback overall was very positive; there were 3 negatives out of 75 surveys returned. Signage could have been better. There was positive feedback for teachers who used note cards to collect information from parents about their specific students.

13. 8th Grade Open House 11/27 (Lara)

Invitations will be sent to all D11 eighth graders, as well as to all current Palmer students.

14. College Fair (Lara)

The Southern Colorado College Fair (10/1) was sponsored by Palmer, but held at Coronado High School since free parking is readily available there. The College fair was very well attended, and there were lots of different schools for students to visit.

15. Advanced Learning Plan (ALP) (Michael)

Palmer has 217 students identified as GT. There are approximately 50 GT students per grade, except that the senior class has 65 students identified as GT.

Palmer Gifted and Talented students are submitting their [ALP goals using Naviance](#), so there will be continuity from one year to the next. The GT students are not meeting together; they’ll each choose a time and individually submit own ALP. Michael had booked the computer lab so students could come in during a free period to work on their ALP, but no GT students showed up. This year’s focus is on quality of each goal, and striving toward the goals. In addition to an academic goal, each GT student is asked to set a social emotional goal.

There hasn’t been monitoring in the past of ALPs, but this year Michael hopes to do quarterly progress monitoring (in the Naviance system).

Michael is looking to do more with the parent piece in Naviance; that piece is rolling out next month. Parents will have their own login and be able to add comments to the ALP goals.

16. Student Council (StuCo) Report (Bailey)

Hank and Jaime are spirit people. Today, students will try to duct tape Bailey to a wall; this is a fund raiser with each strip of tape costing \$1.

The Homecoming caravan (fancy cars) starts at 4:30 pm tomorrow, and alumni will tailgate at the stadium. The football game starts at 7pm.

Last year, StuCo held a Harvest Festival, and this year they’ll do an event in November.

The Doherty staff vs. Palmer staff basketball game is a fundraiser for Make-a-Wish.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 a.m.

Upcoming Palmer SAC Meetings: November 8, December 13, January 10, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9