

NFA Compact Committee Minutes

12/16/09

Attendance: Admin: S. Valentino; Staff: T. Jones, V. Dunham
Parents: C. Cruz (Chair), T. Hoffner, F. Powell, L. Gambill, S. Santiago

Items Discussed:

CCC Update

CR 100 Plan was reviewed

According to plan, NFA students should be participating in Compact. Ms. Jones advised that she spoke with J. Perez, President of council, who will put on agenda for next meeting. Ms. Jones will also follow up with security guards since some have students attending NFA.

Community Service Requirement for Graduating Seniors

Ms. Jones advised that she followed up with P. O'Reilly re community service:

- must be fulfilled with not for profit, however, it is not a requirement to be able to list on your resume
- recommended community service list was given out

US Census

How to get parents to participate?

Ms Valentino advised that letter was going out to parents in school district as part of kickoff.

Teachers will incorporate lessons on importance of census.

Newburgh to be first city in NY to have mobile van with trailer on Jan 8th

Forms will be mailed to households in March.

Outreach will be conducted for 3 months. Maps & posters to be distributed.

C. Cruz will send bilingual reminders. Further discussion took place about having bilingual minutes online.

Grant Writing Workshop

Follow up to Parent Leadership Dinner:

Concerns were raised that we weren't large enough. Also, most clubs do own fund raising.

Club Day

Parents concerned that information could be overwhelming asked if information could be put on website. Ms. Jones agreed to inquire.

Goal Review

Ms. Jones advised that it will not be possible to hold junior info as originally planned due to scheduling on new system & because guidance is also part of conversion team. She did suggest possibility of compact partnering with 9th grade transition program to be held during an evening in spring. Mini workshop can be done during evening in place of junior college exploration originally planned.

Transition Update

Students can only take courses offered by House.

Next meeting Tara Jones will bring list of courses to be offered by both buildings.

AP course will be offered at both sites.

Some courses are key to house such as nursing program (CNA) and forensics.

Not sure if there will be enough need to offer ESL at North.

Clubs & Activities: some will be exclusive at each building, some will be offered at both.

Transportation is still being discussed.

Sporting events and practices will be held at various locations throughout the district depending on the sport.

Parents are urged to attend conversion night at the North Campus if there sophomore or junior is in an existing program that is being moved to that location.

Tentative scheduling to start in January for existing sophomores and juniors.

Schedules are not set in stone until approved by parents & students.

Guidance is concerned about meeting goals and is tasked with providing information to parents. All foreign languages will be offered at both campuses. Parents asked for monthly updates to continue regarding the conversion.

Carmen Cruz discussed creating high school checklist for students. Two years ago NFA Compact worked & completed handbook that was included in students' organizers. Handbook was to serve as guide/checklist. Tara Jones advised that a student checklist is available at guidance. Unfortunately, it cannot be made available online. Each junior receives packet that includes the checklist. She will bring to next meeting.

Guidance has a great deal of information for college prep along with scholarship availability. For additional scholarship opportunities parents are urged to visit fastweb online.

Ms. Valentino & Ms. Jones agreed to review previously created handbook to see if it can be adjusted for both campuses.

Regents tutoring to begin tentatively on return of school. Parents asked if SAT workshops are available. Parents were advised that no matter how much time is spent on a workshop, time would still need to be spent studying at home.

Next meetings are scheduled for Thursday, January 21st and Thursday, February 11th at 6pm in Humanities Cafeteria. Meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend. Any questions or for further information please contact NFA Compact Chair, Carmen Cruz, ccruz@gnes.nrcsd.org.