

Berkeley International High School
Parent Action Group
September 8, 2011, 5 p.m.

ATTENDED BY: A. Milton, R. Parker, N. Pleskac, M. Meyer, M. Katz, T. Daniels, D. Laner, R. Penn, M. Mann, A. Nunez, J. Burroughs, S. Schonberg, D. Kidder, I. Maes, A. Fargeix, B. Broque, M. McDonald, J. Wakelee, G. Martin

Minutes by Monika Mann

1. Welcome and Introductions 10 min

2. Admin/Teacher Report In – Ashley, Matt and or Nick 5 min
Matt reports a good first week, and thanked all of the parents who helped teachers out in setting up their classrooms and with other help.

Ashley

- Thanked PAG for all its support and work
- Reports that there will be an emphasis on attendance this yr. Phone calls will be made to families of students with poor attendance.
- Reports that she is seeking out a family that can host a female teacher from Shanghai for 4 weeks - early Oct to early Nov. Offering \$100 stipend/wk. There is one family that has offered to host for the first two weeks so it could be possible to split the hosting between two families

CAS Changes/Needs – Ross

Ross discussed the role of the IB coordinator, interfacing with the BIBO and offering teacher/student support

3. Parent/Committee Reports

Field Trips – Devra 5 min

 - Has submitted an application for a \$700 grant from Target stores for Sophomore college trips.
 - Freshman Field trip planned Oct 20 for Arab Film Festival. Still needs some chaperones.
 - Discussed possibility of Field trip to Zellerbach to see Cambodian Dance Troupe. Some discussion as to whether this would be an appropriate/interesting trip for the students
 - Discussed how Field Trip Committee functions by (a) seeking out local events that may be of interest and presenting them to the staff, and (b) responding to staff requests for specific field trips.

BHSDG/Fundraising –

2 min

- BHS Development Group gets about 100K/yr which is enough for each teacher to receive \$200 for classroom supplies, etc, and to fund other projects such as tutoring, IB testing, substance abuse counseling, extra financial help for kids who receive need-based college scholarships, etc.
- There is an Annual Auction and Fundraiser for BHS in the Spring. Profits from this may be divided among the small learning communities this year to generate more involvement.
- Funding for Coordinator Position discussed. It was fully funded by an anon. donation for two yrs and then ½ funded by an anon. donation last yr and this yr. That donor no longer has a child in BIHS and will not be contributing in the future. Extremely important for parents to advocate for full funding of this position by the School District.

Outreach – Maureen

10 min

- Outreach Committee reaches out to new families, parents of color and, BIHS community in general.
- ‘Buddy Me IB’- student support group started last yr: students mentoring other students for college process, etc. Jrs and Srs can get CAS hours for this. There will be a ½ day training this fall for mentors. Plan is for triad groups to meet after school every 2 - 3 wks.
- Will recruit parents to help with Triads.
- The question was brought up if BIHS is ethnically diverse, and ensuing discussion on how to outreach better for events like the welcome picnic and BTS night. Discussed possibly making phone calls to parents about these events.

4. Upcoming Immediate Needs

10 min

BPTSA, SSC, BSEP, Safety

Candidates for Elections

Elections will be next week

- Need to elect two parents to Advisory Council which is the Governing Body for all Small schools . Council is made up of parents, teachers and students. Council considers programs that need funding and decides whether they merit approval. Also discusses college trips, outreach, etc. Meets monthly 3:45 pm on Wednesdays.
- School Site Council: Approves education plan for entire school. Very important this yr since it is an accreditation yr (WASC) BHS is seeking approval for 5 yrs. As a member of this committee one can advocate for BIHS as well as all of BHS.

Meets every other Tues. 4:15 - 6 pm
Last yr 3 BIHS students were on this committee.
Discussed need to send notice on etree re this.

- Also need to elect parents to BSEP and safety committee. Important that BIHS is represented on both of these.

Communications 10 min

Teacher Photos 9/12 -Steve Wahlstrom will take.

BTS Flyer

BTS Survey - discussed possibly putting one together.

Website Content

Fall Newsletter

5. Questions. Comments. Suggestions. 5 min

6. Adjourn. Small Group Meetings For Those Who Can Stay

Next PAG Meeting Tuesday 9/22 5 p.m.

Remaining PAG 2011 Meetings 10/20, 11/10, and 12/1