

Central Home and School General Membership Meeting

4/10/19

1. Welcome & Agenda Review:

- a. CHS Counseling Dept.
- b. President McKenna's School Update-presented by Tracy Scott
- c. Title One Q&A
- d. HSA Updates
- e. Class Rep Updates
- f. Close
- g. Counseling Department- Christine Soda- email Csoda@philasd.org

2. Dr. Christine Soda- School Counselor

- a. The counseling department thanked the HSA for its financial and emotional support
- b. Central's Counseling department consists of 5 counselors for 2,400 students
- c. Department's focus has shifted from providing primarily college prep. counseling to student mental and emotional support
- d. School Connect Curriculum is used by the counseling Department- to provide support to students regarding mental health issues
 - i. Every student in 9th grade is exposed to the School Connect Mental Health Curriculum and includes a technology component and online activities for students
 - ii. Laptops for counseling dept. will enable counselors to provide the Student Connect Curriculum to all classes
 - iii. The counseling department would also like to bring in education and programing for parents regarding student mental health
- e. The Counseling department uses Naviance College and Career Readiness Technology Solution as their curriculum for college prep.
 - i. Naviance is a comprehensive K-12 college and career readiness solution that helps districts and schools align student strengths and interests to improve student outcomes and connecting learning to life
 - ii. Central counselors go to each senior history class and take one day to introduce Naviance to senior students
- f. Dr. Soda answered questions from parents at the meeting:
 - i. A parent expressed concern that families and students are not being made aware of alternate options to college, such as military service, trade school, police academy etc.

- ii. Dr. Soda agreed that more efforts need to be made to provide information to students on options other than college (e.g., gap-year programs)
- iii. Counselors need parents to share their contacts with Unions, trade schools etc.
- iv. The school needs to engage in a broader conversation about life after graduation
 - 1. Cost of college, debt incurred
 - 2. Intense push for kids to go to Ivy League schools/School culture pushes college rather than trade school
- v. A Parent asked Dr. Soda to address the change in college acceptance rates seen this year. Students are seeing a decrease in Colleges acceptance rates, which is putting more pressure on them.
 - 1. Dr. Soda's response: Counselors also saw a decrease in acceptance rates of Central students from University of Pennsylvania, Temple and the University of Pittsburgh this year. These schools are seeing increased applicants and are applying more stringent acceptance requirements.
 - 2. The counselors learn this information at the same time as the students and will be using it to counsel seniors next year about where to apply

3. School Updates- Tracy Scott

- a. Tracy Scott introduced- Rashida Hancock- Liaison with Philadelphia School District who was present at the HAS meeting
- b. Update of SAC- School Advisory Council
 - i. SAC is composed of community, parents, students and teachers

The District placed Central as a priority 2 school- this means that because Central has a strong HSA, which fulfills the district's requirements for a SAC
- c. Graduation: May 31st all graduating seniors get 3 tickets; students can request from Pres. McKenna one extra ticket

4. Title One Presentation- Tracy Scott

- a. Title 1 is a School-Parent Compact- jointly developed by school, parents and teachers
 - i. Compact must be reviewed and discussed twice a year (Spring and Fall) -- Compact goals are reviewed; feedback is solicited from parents
 - ii. In order to receive Title 1 funding parents must be engaged in the review
- b. HSA is asked to look at school, parent and student responsibilities and review:
 - i. The School District of Philadelphia Anchor goal
 - ii. Central High School's goals
 - iii. Parent Responsibilities
 - iv. Student Responsibilities
 - v. Communication about student learning
 - vi. Activities to build partnership with families
- c. January Title 1 Goals
 - i. For teachers: Closed Advisory for teachers
 - ii. For Students and Parents: HSA gave funding for student agenda books. This year Central plans to put the Title 1 compact in the agenda books to increase student and parent engagement
 - iii. Repairing flat screen TVs in school to use for announcements (activities, events)
- d. Next year Title 1 Budget Goals:

- i. Pay for speakers on brain development, stress or topics of interest to parents
 - ii. Encourage parents and students to participate in Spring Clean up
 - iii. Encourage parents to attend HSA auction
- e. School-wide goals:
 - i. Math: at least 27% students will score proficient
 - ii. Goals around attendance
 - iii. Provide high quality curriculum
 - iv. Parent/teacher conferences
 - v. Parents have access to infinite campus
 - vi. Support to parents and families whose children are not going to college
 - vii. Provide parents reasonable access to staff
 - viii. Provide parents to opportunities to volunteer and participate in child's class and observe classroom activities
 - ix. Info on child abuse background checks
- f. email Tracy Scott tescott@philasd.org with any feedback by noon tomorrow.

5. Tani Bertolino- HSA Auction

- a. Location: Penns Landing Catering
- b. Money raised will go toward funding Counseling Dept chromebooks and Lockers
- c. Donations needed: gift certificates, services, jewelry, art, experiences for auction
- d. Donations requested to sponsor teachers
- e. Buy Raffle tickets

6. Mimi Harvi- Environment

- a. Final Outdoor clean up April 28th 12-5pm

7. Class Updates

- a. 278 Update- Final blood drive April 25th and 26
- b. 279 Update on Listserv
- c. 280 Angela
 - i. Raise funds for the Auction in increments of 280.
 - ii. Send a check with child to Class sponsor Amanda Kincaid for dues of \$100 now or \$250 for total amount
- d. 281 Theresa Marley
 - i. Class dues start in 10th grade

8. Andrea McNeil- Nominating Committee

- a. Upcoming open positions on Central Home and School Board:
 - i. VP technology
 - ii. Co -VP for Fundraising
 - iii. VP of volunteers and Events
 - iv. Recording Secretary
- b. All positions are 2-year terms
- c. The Board is also looking for parents to serve on the Nominating committee

Contact Laura Buonomo or Tyra Duhan if interested in any position.

