



SACRAMENTO CITY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION

Agenda Item# 9.5

Meeting Date: November 3, 2011

Subject: Student Board Member Report

- Information Item Only
- Approval on Consent Agenda
- Conference (for discussion only)
- Conference/First Reading (Action Anticipated: _____)
- Conference/Action
- Action
- Public Hearing

Division: Youth Development

Recommendation:

Hear/discuss monthly Student Advisory Council report.

Background/Rationale:

The Student Advisory Council (SAC) serves as the primary representative body of students working in partnership with SCUSD administration and the SCUSD Board of Education to collaborate on school-site and district-wide policy and to strengthen student voice. The SAC provides a forum for students to learn leadership skills and work innovatively with adults toward promoting academic achievement and addressing key initiatives and/or district issues.

Financial Considerations: None

Documents Attached:

Student Advisory Council report for November 3, 2011

Estimated Time of Presentation: 5 Min.

Submitted by:

Isaac Gardon, SAC-Student Board Member

Zachary Corbo, SAC-President

Brit Irby, Specialist II, Youth Development /SAC Advisor

Approved by: N/A



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Isaac Gardon
Student Board Member

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 3, 2011

TO: Board of Education
Jonathan Raymond, Superintendent
Chief Officers

FROM: Isaac Gardon, Student Board Member
Zachary Corbo, SAC President
Brit Irby, SAC Advisor/Specialist II, Youth Development

SUBJECT: NOVEMBER STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (SAC) REPORT

1. SAC Executive Board

Once again the SAC Executive Board has been very busy since our last update, planning the October Youth Council meeting along with deciding upon what the SAC's 4 primary initiatives will be this year. The SAC EB is also happy to announce the distribution of the first edition of its newsletter "The Advisor", thanks to the tireless efforts of its Secretary Brittany Lee (CKM), the SAC now has another avenue of connection between it and SCUSD students.

This year, the SAC EB has chosen to focus on awareness of Student Rights, Green Schools, and Anti-Bullying/Cyber Bullying. Committees are being formed to research the issues, create action plans, look for community partners and more.

In addition, the SAC EB would like to begin a campaign to increase youth voice in our surrounding school districts. The Executive Board is proud of how far SCUSD has come in supporting youth voice in all levels of decision making and we hope to help other students enjoy the same.

During the past few weeks the SAC Executive Board has been asked to give the student perspective on current district projects and initiatives from several different departments.

- Kathy Whiteside, Director of Attendance, Drop-out and Recovery, who is currently working on the Everyday Counts Initiative, gave the SAC EB information on student absences. The district is currently beginning a project to better study the factors surrounding chronic absenteeism. On average, 7000 student nationwide miss school each day, many of them minority students, and SCUSD is hoping to understand what it can do to decrease these numbers in its student population. Two students committed to serving on the committee for this initiative.

- Matt Perry and Patrick Bohman with the Linked Learning/High School Reform Initiatives are currently collecting information and data in regards to their project, forming a strong Graduate Profile for SCUSD students. They are hoping to have a stronger understanding of what SCUSD students should have and be able to do when they graduate in order to be ready for college or a career. The Executive Board helped to brainstorm the graduate profile from a student perspective.

If you would like more information about these SCUSD projects/initiatives, or would like to become a part of them, please contact the SAC at (916) 643-9414.

The SAC is happy to announce the official election of its Treasurer, Lauren Poon (CKM), and its Secretary, Brittany Lee (CKM). Both have been serving as Interim Members on the Board since July, and were officially elected by the Youth Council in October. The Executive Board has also appointed its two remaining positions. D'Andre Paris (HJHS) is now SAC's Historian, and Hannah Jackobsen (WCHS) is Communication Chair. Congrats!

2. Youth Council Meeting

On October 19th, 2011, the Student Advisory Council (SAC) held their second Youth Council meeting of the 2011-2012 school year. The meeting was held at C.K. McClatchy High School from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm. This month, the SAC was excited to have Superintendent Jonathan Raymond address the Youth Council. We also heard from Ms. Zhauntel Fields from SCUSD's Youth Development Support Services about Red Ribbon Week and went into breakout sessions to begin work on SAC initiatives,

Red Ribbon Week Presentation: Red Ribbon Week is from October 24-28. Because the color red is a concern at some school sites, green wristbands were distributed to the Youth Council, as well as anti-drug posters. Students shared ideas about how to spread drug abuse awareness in their schools. Some ideas shared included Sheriff Deputies talking to students about problems associated with drugs, classroom door decorating contests, and announcing deterring facts about drugs over PA systems.

Breakout Sessions: Students worked in breakout groups to brainstorm and discuss several initiatives/topics, including;

Student Rights (led by Student Board Member Izzy Gardon) -to inform students of their legal rights at school and discuss

Being Green (led by SAC Vice President Katie Cheeseman) to brainstorm ways our district can become more eco-friendly

Graduate Profile (led by SAC Secretary Brittany Lee)- to rethink the skills high school graduates need for today's dynamic world and

Every Day Counts (led by Sac Treasurer Lauren Poon)- to brainstorm reasons why students drop out of school and ways to prevent drop-outs

Superintendent Jonathan Raymond: Superintendent Jonathan Raymond gave a presentation about his school experiences and his goals for our district. He stated that he believes the 2012-2013 school year will be the hardest due to budget cuts, and that "we have to be better today than we were yesterday". In addition, Superintendent Raymond expressed his desire for every school to have a student advisory council, and finished his presentation with a greatly appreciated question and answer session.

3. Youth Voice In Action

Many SCUSD high schools have participated in activities that have benefited their school

communities. Youth Voice in Action was discussed at the Student Advisory Youth Council Meeting on October 19, 2011, held in the Media Center at C. K. McClatchy High School.

The "Got Milk?" breakfast-eating program challenged five high schools to increase the number of students eating breakfast. The five high schools; Luther Burbank, Rosemont, John F. Kennedy, Hiram Johnson, and C.K. McClatchy competed for three weeks. Luther Burbank students increased the percentage of breakfasts served by 34 percent during that time and won the \$3,000 prize. The Student Body will decide what to do with the money.

Both John F. Kennedy High School and C.K. McClatchy High school celebrated their Homecoming spirit weeks during late October. JFK students got to learn about the clubs on campus at Club Rush, and CKM students participated in their 75th year of annual float building, ending the homecoming celebration with floats made by each class.

Hiram Johnson High School hosted a Challenge Day, giving students and staff the opportunity to challenge their perceptions of others, build a stronger sense of unity and commit to supporting one another.

The Associated Student Body at Arthur A. Benjamin Health Professions High School has developed a recycling program for the campus. By encouraging students and staff to recycle, while collecting papers, plastic, bottles, and cans, Health Professions ASB hopes to make the campus more green.

West Campus High School is proud to have hosted a successful talent show, exemplifying the many unique and quirky talents of the academically successful student body.

Student leadership at American Legion High School is working hard to increase breast cancer awareness and expand their community garden. Students distributed free key chains, lanyards, and information that brought awareness to breast cancer. American Legion students are also the proud recipients of gardening grants from both Home Depot and Lowes.