

Region IX P-16 Council

February 3, 2009

Minutes

The R 9 P-16 Council meeting began at 8:30 a.m., on Tuesday, February 3, 2009. In attendance were: Jessica Southerland, Ronnie London, Donna Farrell, Ramona Vaughn, Shelley Sweatt, Margaret Luna, Mike McCoy, Kristen watts, Debby Patterson, Jane Owen, Leilani Kesner, Wes Pierce, Grant Simpson, and Deb Cornelius.

1. Montague Report – Margaret Luna reported on the informative event in Montague on January 18, 2009. It was a quite successful event that hosted almost 100 attendees. Over 25 students ranging from grade 8 to grade 12 came to learn more about post secondary education. It was wonderful to have their parents and families as well. Our Region IX P-16 Council received its first of many, thank you notes, individually signed by the students that we are empowered through the January event.
Information was collected on each student to keep lines of communication open and begin to gather data. The Council then brainstormed the development of “P-16 data information cards” and what information should be included on each card. Sample “P-16 Data Cards” will be presented at the next meeting to vote upon. Margaret then discussed the Zavala banquet and scholarship information that our council is also supporting.
2. MLK scholarship- our local P-16 Council was proud to provide a \$500 scholarship for an area student to be received this spring. Mr. Larry Nash of the Martin Luther King Center will provide more information how the Council can be of more assistance for their May of 2009 event. This event encourages young people to get proactive about their futures.
3. ELA update- Dr. Simpson reported on a meeting held in Austin on January 23, 2009. The meeting went very well and Dr. Bob Redmon (WCOE) and Dr. Sally Henshel (English) were in attendance there and pleased with the progress that had been made.
4. Our P-16 Council is excited about the foreword movement of the Dual Credit Program at Hirschi High School. We are thrilled to have 12 “first generation students” participating in the Biology course and 13 “first generation students” in the College Algebra course. Scholarships brought the cost to only \$50 per course (at Hirschi’s request) for each student.

College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) - Actively pursuing quality key personnel for the Go Centers. Qualifications for the counselors will include state recognized counseling certification and bilingualism is a positive consideration. The Council has some candidates in mind but Grant encouraged each member to provide any recommendations they may have. We received \$98,000 per year, and may be able to fund a third.

5. Update on logo, branding, letterheads- We have submitted all of our brainstormed ideas from the Council to the Mass communication department @ MSU. Product choices will be considered, voted on and decided upon in our March meeting. If by chance we receive the choices earlier we may vote electronically on choices to expedite our brochure completion.
6. Summer Bridge updates- The Council is excited to be pooling our resources with other entities to create a wonderful experience for these at-risk students. There was a planning meeting on January, 21, 2009 with 10 participants. We will be able to expand our efforts for At-Risk 9th graders with CIS and 21st Century Funds. We would like to see the Summer Bridge be a week long experience. The Council will plan for spring parent orientations, and discuss the use of local high schools. The group was in consensus that we would hold a closing event at Midwestern State University. We need to begin working on donors for this spring event as well (e.g. Sam's, United)
 - a. Expansion of Project BOW to more 11th/12th graders
 - i. Academic + team building + career
 - ii. Residential
 - iii. CACG
7. The R 9 P 16 brochure development team is just waiting for the decision of the council on logo and branding information. The council will also update the website with new logo and branding after the final adoption of the choices is provided from Mass Comm...
8. Teacher/TEKS/Curriculum- Wes stated that the calendar for summer in service should be finalized soon; he will formulate a list and provide it so that the opportunities available for teachers will be posted on our website.
9. Public Relations Update-Our Council's website is growing and changing almost on a daily basis. The council took some time to review it and provided some input and suggestions for improvements. Please check on it periodically and note changes. www.region9p16.org/. The council is open to suggestions as to how this website can be enhanced.
10. Deb Cornelius will present the website to Region IX counselors on Friday, January 6, 2009. She will primarily be sharing the "scholarship" portion of the website to encourage the ISD's to include the P-16 Website link on their individual websites.

The Region IX P-16 Council is making a huge effort to "get our word out". We will be presenting to the Rotary Clubs in the Wichita Falls area. Deb will send out emails to inform the Council members where and when scheduled presentations will take place. Grant and Deb are excited

to attend Nortex Regional Planning Commission Luncheon in February, and hope to present to that group in the near future as well. Dr. Simpson will present to MSU Board of Regents in February also. We hope to launch a media effort the second week in February, "Region IX p-16- Getting to the "HEART" of the matter of education, empowerment and employment". We meet with Anne Works on Monday, February 9, 2009.

11. 2/11 P-16 *Institute in Austin-*

Attendees: Shelley Sweatt, Michael Paris, Romona Vaughn, Grant Simpson, Deb Cornelius

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