

EAST SIDE UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MINUTES OF MEETING AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENT ADVOCATES (AASA) OCTOBER 13, 2011 6:00 P.M. SILVER CREEK HIGH SCHOOL - LIBRARY

Present:

Mulugeta Habtegabriel
Sharon Jackson
Barbara Applewhite
Monique Carter
Diane Donald
Wm. Derek Grasty
Joy Heckard

Wilbur Jackson
Joyce Johnson-Smith
Socorro McCord
Genia Sabathia
Sierra Sabathia
Sheila Sapp
James A. Staten

Beverly Tolbert
Denise Vanderhorst
Laura Whitley
Dan Moser
Mary Guillen
Adolfo Laguna
Noemi C. Ramirez

1. Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 6:18 p.m. Co-Chair Mulugeta Habtegabriel extended a welcome to all in attendance at the meeting.

2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting

- **June 23, 2011**

Motion by Socorro McCord, second by Sharon Jackson, to approve the AASA meeting minutes of June 23, 2011; minutes approved.

- **September 8, 2011**

Motion by Socorro McCord, second by Sharon Jackson, to approve the AASA meeting minutes of September 8, 2011; minutes approved.

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3. Early Alert System Status Report – Silver Creek High School Administration

Three sites have volunteered to pilot the early alert system: Silver Creek, Oak Grove and Andrew Hill. The pilot system has been in operation for approximately nine weeks.

Principal Adolfo Laguna indicated that Silver Creek High School uses School Loop as the tool for the early alert system. Ninety percent of the teachers at Silver Creek use School Loop. Students and parents are able to check grades and homework assignments.

Those teachers not using School Loop are sending letters to homes or making phone calls to parents. Another option available to parents is a “grade check form.” It is recommended that grade check forms be submitted by Wednesday or Thursday for a response by Friday. Teleparent is also used by staff to send messages to student, example is a test on Friday.

Co-Chair Habtegabriel asked what type of outreach is being made to recruit parents to use School Loop.

Principal Laguna indicated that information was provided to parents about School Loop at Back-to-School Night and Freshmen Orientation.

Associate Principal Noemi Ramirez shared stated that parents can come to the administration office to request/receive a progress report on their child’s grades. She also extended an invitation to parent to stop by and see the Counselor, Principal or her to discuss any concerns.

4. Outreach Efforts and Strategies to Engage African American Parents and Students – Silver Creek High School Administration

Principal Laguna indicated that Silver Creek High School’s BSU Advisor is coordinating activities with the students. Currently, Silver Creek is raising funds in order to attend the upcoming NAACP event.

5. DeAnza College Invitation to Host African American Students – Silver Creek High School Administration

- **Update on Recruitment Efforts of African American Students to Attend Event**

This is a yearly conference that is held in the month of February. James Staten is currently working on the Silver Creek student attendees for this event.

6. How Can AASA Help Parents and School Administration in their Efforts to Engage African American Parents and Students? – Silver Creek High School Administration and Parents

Principal Laguna indicated that by having AASA at Silver Creek High School is a great start in helping parents and administration in their efforts to engage African American parents and students. Suggestions made:

- *Being available as a resource*
- *Will look to AASA as a guidance/support as the Silver Creek recruits parents to the Silver Creek High School African American Parents Committee*
- *Offer scholarships*

7. How can AASA Help Parents to Navigate the Educational System and Provide Resources to their Children? – Silver Creek High School Parents

Co-Chair Mulugeta Habtegabriel shared information as to how parents can access the African American Students Advocates (AASA) web page. Posted on AASA's web page are meeting agendas and supporting documents, meeting minutes, Vision, Mission, Goals, and the 2011-2012 meeting calendar.

<http://www.esuhd.org/Student-Services/African-American-Student-Advocates/index.html>

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8. Update on San Jose 2020 (SJ2020) – Patricia Martinez-Roach, Board Member, and Dan Moser, Superintendent

- **Where does this issue stand and what kind of contribution is ESUHSD contributing?**

Superintendent Dan Moser indicated that East Side Union High School is a partner in SJ2020 with the City of San Jose. Mayor Chuck Reed and Santa Clara County Superintendents got into a collaborative regarding closing the achievement gap by the year 2020. It was also mentioned that it is the responsibility of the districts and school sites to provide student the necessary resources to meet A-G requirements. Every district is committed to bringing resources, but that they all do it in their own way; it is bringing resources to parents to help them make decisions.

Superintendent Moser is part of a citywide steering committee. This committee has benchmarks, API is one benchmark, which will be a yearly accountability assessment – but it needs to start at pre-school.

An SJ2020 Annual Report can be found on the Santa Clara County Office of Education's website at: <http://www.sccoe.org/sj2020/>

9. Next Meeting Date

The next AASA meeting will be held in November at Oak Grove High School, 285 Blossom Hill Road.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 pm.