LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 101
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Minutes of Board Workshop
And
Student Linkage Meetings
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
8:00 am – 2:30 pm
District Office, K-8 Campus and HS Campus

Present: Mark Mansell, Melissa Miller, Wendy Chord, Cris Yaw and John Parsons
Minutes taken by: Laurie Kansanback

Board members met at the District Office at 8:00 am to begin the day of linkages with students.

1. MS Academic Achievement Breakfast in K-8 Cafeteria: This event was attended by approximately 80 people. Board members helped serve breakfast to students along with the Soske's who are the volunteer chefs for this event.

2. MS Student Linkage in Choir Room: The Board met with approximately 55 students in grades 6, 7 & 8. Topics discussed were as follows:
   A. Cafeteria Food – Food has improved since last year. Still not a lot of variety.
   B. Clocks in the Hallways – some students feel this would help with time management.
   C. 10 minute break between 2nd & 3rd period – students feel this is needed for bathroom visits.
   D. Substitute Teachers – Is there a way to help subs be better equipped for the job? Students feel it makes a difference when subs are familiar with subject matter (musical if teaching band) and some need help with classroom management skills.
   E. Field Trips – Students do not want to lose FT's because of money constraints. Most feel the purpose of FT's is FUN first and EDUCATIONAL VALUE second.
   F. Navigation – Still just the same thing. Lots of concerns about not getting information they think they need. Students suggest rotating teachers for this so they get varying perspectives. They want more info on HS. Some want more info on scholarship opportunities and/or colleges.
   G. Questions about vending machines – ALL healthy is not good. Still want some junk food options.
   H. Sex Ed – 100% of students would rather get Sex Ed at school than from parents at home. There were numerous complaints that the teacher in charge of the health class is unorganized and not knowledgeable about subject.
   I. Maintenance in girls locker room was discussed – reports of hole in the wall and a bad smell.

3. IS Student Linkage in K-8 Library: The Board met with 20 representatives of the 4th and 5th grades. Questions were around over-crowding (at school and on the bus), vending machines and the desire to start an orchestra.

4. HS Student Linkage in HS Library: The Board met with approximately 18 students in 9th – 12th grades. Topics discussed were as follows:
   A. Navigation – This remains a topic of some concern for students. They do not feel it is working as well as it could for them but are also not terribly sure what would make it better. HS leadership continues to work at modifying the framework to serve both student needs and board expectations. One new question this year was centered on credit for navigation at perhaps ¼ credit per year. At the end of 4 years students would have earned 1 full credit for time spent working on their portfolio, etc.
   B. A question about CORE 24 was asked by the Board. The freshmen present indicated they liked the 'pathways' options as laid out.

C. Students involved in the Health Adoption (Sex-Ed) reported on how well they feel that is going. It has been eye-opening for them to see how the process works (everything takes so LONG). They feel we are on the right track to getting the information they feel they need available.
D. CATS PRIDE AWARD was discussed. Can the recipients of this not be referred to as "Winners" as it is not supposed to be a competition but a recognition.
E. Math – things are going much better with the new math curriculum. It is much more "back to basics" and appears to students to allow them to transition between "story problem-solving math" and more traditional math. They feel like they are learning more and that 'real' terminology is being used.
F. ASB has extra money this year so they want to have a reader board just for the high school.
G. Some things they are happy about:
    1. Online classes
    2. Don's youtube videos
    3. Student forum
    4. Furniture in the Student Lounge
H. Students are working on cutting down on sexual harassment and just plain harassment. This is not because there is much of a problem but because they feel they need to work on something.

5. The Board then met in the District Office for a working lunch and debrief of the day's meetings. During the discussions of the conversations most of the above mentioned topics were discussed. One of the things to come out of these general discussions is the need for help for our subs to be more successful. Also, the Board members expressed a desire for an update in June on issues raised by students at their February linkages.

As this was a workshop meeting of the board, no action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM

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Member	Member
_____	_____
Member	Member
_____	_____
Member	Board Secretary