La Center High School March board report 2010

Curriculum- We have completed our 4th health curriculum adoption meeting and have our 5th scheduled for March 25th. We are continuing our review of the new edition of the Glencoe text that is our current adoption and a Prentice-Hall edition. In addition we are also looking at the "Human Sexuality" supplement that is part of both of these instructional materials. Our student representatives previewed the supplements and they feel that they both meet their needs. We chose to do a comprehensive review of the sexuality supplements with a rubric that Amy Neiman and myself developed based on our experience with the AIM process. Each committee member has or is in the process of reviewing the supplements with this rubric. At the March 25th meeting we will be reviewing the completed rubrics as a group and be ready to make a recommendation to the IMC at the conclusion of the meeting.

The newest instructional math video to be posted on the web, for our parents and students, is on exponential functions and will be up by the weekend!

High school staff met last Friday for professional development on our early release day. Our problem statement (or question) was: 19.42% of our students struggled first semester. What were the causes, who's responsible and what are the solutions?

We had two learning goals: TLW (the learner will)- identify the factors that contribute to student failure rate, differentiate ownership of those factors and suggest possible solutions. The second: TLW create a professional development plan that establishes new protocols, values commitment and supports the deconstruction of isolation in a collegial environment.

This was a very productive meeting and will serve as a springboard to our development of next years SLIP (student learning improvement plan) and our PD (professional development plan for next year.

Our BC (building council) met on 3/16 with Barbara Loomis from ESD to complete our third year review of our previous accreditation process. The BC has worked with Barbara throughout the year to review our original three goals from 06-07 that was established during our accreditation. They were and are: Increase parent communication, establish and institutionalize Navigation 101, and improve the use of technology for student learning.

This process was time well spent as we reviewed our progress, modifications, and failures and laid the groundwork to once again, drive the development of the SLIP for next year.

Athletics- Our dance team once again qualified for the State Dance Tournament on March 26th and 27th. They qualified two routines that they will perform with the hope of bringing home another state trophy!

Spring sports have begun and we have very impressive participation numbers once again with full JV teams in boy's soccer, baseball, softball, girl's golf and over 60 out for track.

The Columbian ran a great article on Courtney Miskell, Megan Abelyn and our equestrian team. You can find it by going to the Columbian on line and searching for Miskell and Abelyn.

Teachers- Mr. Landes- McCullough is teaming with Ms. Holter to provide costumes and choreography for our students that are producing a musical video on harassment in school. This is a grassroots endeavor by our students to make a difference in an area, which they see a need. This grassroots group endeavor is a great example of our caring staff and responsible student body taking ownership in their environment and making a difference.

Mrs. Bounds and her AP government class complete a project every year called "Project Citizen". This project teaches students how to make a difference in representative government around an issue they feel strongly about. Last year the students re-wrote the student/parent/staff surveys and created a section on health and navigation. This year they plan to work with the district food service committee to review menus and nutrition at the high school.

Finally, great job everyone for finishing week 1 of HSPE testing. This takes great effort, organization, and follow through to make everything go smoothly with as few disruptions as possible. Special thank you to Paula Tell for her work on this.

Students- Congratulations to our latest Cats Pride Nominees: Krissa Deans (teamwork), Stephanie Schnell (service), Zach Baxter (citizenship), Raymond McConnell (academics), EB Koenig (citizenship), Jake Johnson (teamwork), Austin Thatcher (academics), and Om Yimumnuay (academics).

The Mr. La Center contest is back and is being co-sponsored by the ASB leadership group and the AP government class. The proceeds from this "contest" will be used to buy "Life Straws" that will be sent to Haiti for sanitization of personal drinking water. This years contestants are: Abel Mendez, Tyler Scribner, Tony Collins and Derek Lock.