

## School Advisory Committee

Minutes for 3 Sep. 2009

Attending: Names withheld for internet-posted version.

### 1. SAC

- a. Election of Vice-Chairman, TS, and Secretary, CV.
- b. Chair highlighted the goals from SY 08-09, and the committee passed a resolution to keep the same goal of last year. The goal is to try to become an International Community of Excellence.
- c. SAC training was completed by the principal.
- d. It was decided to continue posting the SAC minutes on the Ankara EHS website and in the Marshall Memo.
- e. Visiting College Board Advisor and College Night. College Board advisor, BH, is sponsored by the U.S. State Department. Mr. H will be in Ankara on Oct. 6, 2009, to meet with GCM students and area school counselors. He will also speak at the College Night to be held at the Turkish American Association that evening. College Night is a parent-organized event, where volunteers provide information to students on prospective colleges (typically alumni volunteers provide information about their alma mater).
- f. Volunteer service. It was also decided that the SAC Student Representative, HS, would work with the Student Council, and that the National Honor Society will work to develop a student volunteer service program. Initial ideas / progress to be briefed at the Oct SAC meeting.
- g. Open House
  - i. PTSO president, CS, was kind enough to offer her house as the location for School Open House after the first of the year.
- h. The HS counselor
  - i. Mr. RS, new HS counselor, was introduced.
  - ii. He will work with visiting college advisor Mr. H to find possible ways to support college night on 6 Oct 2009, and possible assistance that Mr. H could provide to Ankara E/HS.
  - iii. He was trying to build a larger collection of college entrance info.
  - iv. SAT essays are becoming as important as the college application essays, and the school's Continuous School Improvement (CSI) plan has incorporated writing as a goal.
  - v. Important dates and deadlines will be posted for seniors, to include all the important test dates.
  - vi. Parents asked for a list of course offerings. They can get a list of what is offered when a student is switching classes, but before school year begins and the master schedule is set, there is no list.
  - vii. Middle school students may take HS credit classes in only Foreign Language and Math.

2. School Update
  - a. Open House – Friday, Sep. 4<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Tuition – The principal announced that parents are now able to pay the tuition via EFT, electronic transfer, as of Aug. 2009. Parents must present a copy of the bank draft saying that it was paid.
  - c. Budget – The school as awarded more monies
    - i. Information center upgrade \$60,000
    - ii. Furniture for 3 new classrooms \$24,900
    - iii. Supplies \$24,100
    - iv. Athletics \$18,490
    - v. Textbooks \$2,892
    - vi. Art \$700
    - vii. Music \$5,000
  - d. Facilities –
    - i. New this year – sidewalks, upgraded science storage rooms, roof maintenance
    - ii. Still to come – 3 new classrooms (Culinary Arts, ES Art, and Special Ed). We're awaiting an asbestos abatement.
    - iii. Sprinklers were not installed in the ceiling.
3. SAC Sub-Committee
  - a. Held a morning meeting for international parents and 70-75 people attended. Much info was passed out and gone over for their benefit.
  - b. A second Open House will tentatively be held in February off-base.
  - c. School Calendar- The committee is collecting as much info on dates (even TBC –to be changed) so that families can more easily plan.
4. 717<sup>th</sup> ABS
  - a. Track – The contract date of completion is Dec. 2009, but the commander stated it could be ready for at least partial use by the end of October.
  - b. Playground – Should be available to students the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of September.
  - c. Base Access- No one should have trouble accessing the base if they have a valid badge. All international parents, who have been issued a badge from Mr. P, will have access to the base during school working hours and school events.
  - d. Safety is the key to the security of the base.