

Brighton High SCC Meeting Notes  
January 11, 2012  
3:15 pm Media Center

**Council Members in Attendance:** Nancy Tingey, Charisse Hilton, Amber Shill, Larry O'Neil, Katie Densley, Marlene Griffiths, Erin Davis, Paul Jensen, Crystal Merrill, Bill Stoven, Aaron Hadfield, Deanna Runyan-Wall, Jodi Ide, Tom Cushing

**Absent:** Christine Willmore, Jordana Flavin, Maralee Sleight, John Sperry, Mindy Stowers, Cindy Baker, Sue Saunders

**School representatives:** Alan Parrish, Allyson Hanks, Jonathan Hansen, Jerry Christensen

**PTSA representatives:** Diane McQuay, Lisa Devashayree

**SCC Business:**

December meeting notes were approved, a motion was made by Bill Stoven, seconded by Aaron Hadfield then approved unanimously.

**Counselor's Report:** Ms. Allyson Hanks, representing the counseling department, shared plans for the upcoming Sophomore Orientation and Parent Information Night on February 9. The meeting for incoming sophomores and their parents will be held at 7:00 pm in the auditorium. Each department and activity organization will have displays and representatives available to answer questions in the main hall following the meeting. Beginning at 8:00 pm in the media center, information for all parents and students will be presented on the attendance policy, benefits of AP classes, Trimester schedule, online credit opportunities, graduation requirements, and awards. An administrator, teacher, counselor and SCC parents will be available to respond to parent questions.

**Principal's Report:** Facilities Update. At the Canyons District Board meeting last week, architects presented some preliminary ideas for renovations at Brighton and the new building to be built. It was not on the Board's agenda so no one was aware that it would be discussed. The district has assured Ms. Hilton that as plans move forward, the Brighton Community will be involved in the discussions. She and the some faculty from the science department met with the architects in November and were pleased with their innovative ideas for the science labs and computer labs.

On January 27 at 11:00am Brighton will be holding an assembly at Butler for the 9<sup>th</sup> graders of Butler and Albion. A variety of students will talk about the things they have been able to do at Brighton. The Band will play, Accadians will perform the flag ceremony and ceramic students will create some pottery during the assembly. The goal is to get students excited about coming to Brighton and help them see all the great opportunities available for them in high school.

A new science teacher has been hired, Austin Gillespie. Also, Susan Stanley was hired as new head secretary. Go BIG (Bengals Improving Grades) celebration happened today for all students who improved their GPA's or got 3.8 or higher. More than 900 students participated and received cinnamon rolls and a key chain.

**Building Leadership Team (BLT)/ CSIP Committee Report:** The CSIP Goals were reviewed and passed by the SCC with a unanimous vote. A signature page was signed by the SCC members. The School Goals focus on strengthening the Math and Science departments through collaboration with the District Evidence Based Learning department and the feeder schools to develop a systemic plan for student placement and course alignment to maximize student achievement in reaching established benchmarks. Also, Brighton will establish common standards and practices for every classroom including behavior and rigorous academic expectations for all students.

**iPad Request Proposal:** Deanna Runyan-Wall presented a request for 14 iPads for the Special Education class. The request also included purchasing applications and a color printer for the class. The cell tower money would be used to fund this request, estimated \$9,000. Deanna talked about how her son is in the unit and very bored with learning the same curriculum repeatedly and how there are so many Apps that could be used to make learning fun on the iPads. We will review the information this month and take a vote at our next meeting.

**Volunteer Tutoring program:** Mr. Stoven is waiting to hear back from Faculty on how they think the tutoring program can be used most effectively. He will follow-up next month.

**Retention Subcommittee:** This subcommittee met again and discussed the Trimester and redesigning Brighton's front page on the website. Deanna Runyan-Wall volunteered to contact Mr. Hansen about the redesign with the approval of Ms. Hilton. The sub-committee thought it was important to gather more information on why students leave Brighton so they have asked all members of the SCC to call or contact people they know with a short questionnaire that was passed out. We will also email this out to the SCC so those not in attendance can also participate. The committee will meet next on Monday, January 30.

**Trimester Schedule:** The SCC discussed the Trimester schedule at Brighton as follow up from questions that were raised in the December SCC meeting. Information was shared about the pros and cons of this schedule. Jodi Ide reported on responses she received from the faculty about the Trimester. While there were comments from teachers on both sides of the issue, a majority of teachers are in favor of the Trimester schedule. She also polled the students in one of her classes and got all positive responses about the Trimester and no negatives. Previous informal surveys have shown that parents are also strongly in favor of the Trimester schedule.

Nancy Tingey continued the discussion on the Trimester by stating that our main purpose of looking into this issue is to increase understanding among patrons. Parents are asking "Why is Brighton the only school in the district on the Trimester?" There are pros and cons to all school schedules and it is important that parents are aware of them. The SCC, working with the school administration, will post information about the Trimester on Brighton's website to help parents and prospective students have a better understanding of the strengths and what Brighton is doing to mitigate the weaknesses of this schedule.

Marlene Griffiths was on the original committee at Brighton that worked to implement the Trimester schedule as part of the Centennial schools grants from the State of Utah. She said that the original reasons for changing from a 7 period day to the Trimester were to reduce stress on students and to increase academics. She said shortly after the switch they did see a dramatic rise in test scores and grades. Now, nearly 20 years later, our academics are strong and daily student/teacher contact while carrying only five classes per term remain the top benefits of the Trimester schedule.

The discussion closed by emphasizing the importance of SCC members being proactive in explaining the pros and cons of the Trimester to those who ask us and referring people to Brighton's website once information is posted.

### **School Climate:**

Parent's Choice Recognition Award

Volunteers to collect nominations at Parent Teacher conferences Jan. 19

3:30 Erin

6:30 Nancy

4:30 Deanna

7:30 Crystal

5:30 Amber

**PTSA** Nothing to report. Charisse thanked the PTSA for the faculty luncheon.

**Communication:** Feeder School Luncheon will be held Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

**Celebrations:** Brighton's graduation rate is 91%. Canyons District rate is 83%. Rami Haddidan is ranked as an All American wrestler. Boys Basketball team won the Gillette Tournament over the break. Escalara fundraising project went well. We were able to send 10 students to help build a school. Region Drill and Wrestling tournaments will be held at Brighton this year. Ron Meyer and Natalie Aposhian were married over the break.

Next meeting will be February 8<sup>th</sup>.