

SLAC Jan 08

PRESENT: Amanda Kvalheim, Lyn Van Tighem, Lynn King, Paula Butterworth, Kelly Flores, Debbie Koos, Laurie Brown, Greta Viguie, Marilyn Stratford, Pam Granger

Marilyn Stratford: Counseling Update

Please refer to handout:

Thanks to AB 1802, the Counseling Supplemental Program/Grant, new counselors have been added this year. Now we have six counselors at Casa Grande, five at Petaluma High, one at San Antonio/Valley Oaks, and one for Carpe Diem, Sonoma Mountain and Crossroads.

At the elementary level: Counselors provide services including crisis intervention, group work, friendship groups; also counsel over difficult situations at home, academic trouble, and short-term personal counseling.

At the secondary level, they cover three main areas of counseling: 1) academic, choice of classes/goals; 3) career counseling; 4) personal issues

1 – Ensure that every student would get one individual counseling session to go over their academic, attendance records and goals and how to meet them.

2- Identify high risk students, starting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade (those who fall into far below basic in English language arts or math). In high school, these students are those who have not passed one or both sections of the CAHSEE or are not completing credits. In 12<sup>th</sup> grade counselors will also meet with students who may not be graduating to make some post-secondary plans such as Adult Education.

The addition of extra counselors has dramatically reduced the individual caseloads for each counselor. This has helped build relationships with students who otherwise may not have personally connected with their counselors.

We also have Safe School Counselors (2). They have different credentials than the academic counselors. Their main jobs are crisis intervention, safe school planning, providing services for at-risk students to provide outside referrals, threat assessments, and providing information for prevention. They are closely connected with outside agencies and service organization to bring in help.

Project Success Student Assistance Program has provided two counselors from Petaluma People Services whose specialty is alcohol/drug and tobacco prevention and education program. They will run a series of groups throughout the year to educate students and to help them connect with other agencies throughout the community. They will also work with parents that have concerns about their students.

## Site Reports:

Penngrove	They are starting a new afterschool enrichment program that will include Pottery, Art & Drawing, and Spanish. Four new students enrolled this month. Original works art program is starting soon.
KJHS	Nothing to report
PJHS	Students received their final grades. They delivered 20 baskets to needy families before the break. There was low attendance at the last dance.
McNear	The Performing Art program is starting this week for the primary grades, who will be performing in March. Angela Arrien is coming to speak at their Village event. Before break parents and staff met to talk about differentiation and curriculum.
PHS	There is a fundraiser this weekend for the PHS Music Department: Pete Escovedo Latin Jazz Orchestra at the Mystic Theater on January 12 <sup>th</sup> . The PHS Jazz Band will be opening. Tickets are available at McNear's. Call 765-2121 for more info.
McKinley	The teachers are continuing training with Jennifer Ashlock. There is a new Garden Coordinator. Classes have been working in the garden and growing seeds. The ELAC tamales fundraiser made \$605.00 for the 6 <sup>th</sup> grade camp to Walker Creek. The PTA held their first movie night, showing Ratatouille and about 200 people attended. In ELAC news, Rafael Vasquez has made presentations to parents, "Ten questions to ask". In December, he talked to 5 <sup>th</sup> and 6 <sup>th</sup> graders. The PTA had their Winter Bazaar with Santa and Mrs. Claus, and they held a gift wrap fundraiser.

The Governor's budget will be released on January 10<sup>th</sup>. At the February 5<sup>th</sup> meeting Steve Bolman will be the guest to talk about impact of state budget on the district.