

Biggs USD District Advisory Committee

Meeting Notes

February 2, 2012 3:30-5:00 pm Board Room

Present:	Melissa Atteberry Pam Ragan April Robinson	Pam Sheppard Nelda Andes Stacy Doughman	Amy Smith Char Locey Laura Dearden	Angela Thompson Sandy Lattemore
Absent:	Doug Kaelin Maxine Hamblin	Vera Bridges Carleen Charley	Brigitte O'Brien Heidi Siegall	Caddie Honan

1) Meeting notes from the previous meeting were distributed and Laura Dearden gave highlights of the November 17th meeting. The purpose of the committee was reviewed.

2) Review of District Board 2011-12 Goals 4,5 and 6. Input about district goals and strategies:

Goal 4: Career Goals (K-12): Doug Kaeiin sent information about activities at the high school. Different presenters with a career focus have visited several classes. All 11th grade students have taken the ASVAB career aptitude test and are awaiting results. Parents of senior students attended a recent FASTA meeting with 31 Of 40 students represented. The new Ag production class has taken field trips to the rice station and other Ag related businesses in the area. The Ag class will be attending the Colusa Farm Show and will focus on Ag related careers.

April Robinson shared about the structure of the *AVID* program that supports students developing learning skills and promotes success in high school and college. There is a career component in this program. This program currently includes all 9th grade students and may be extended into further grades in the future.

Suggestions: Melissa Atteberry suggested a PR focus to increase community awareness about the percentage of students going on to post-secondary education. It was suggest that the success of graduates going on to 2 or 4 year-colleges and other educational venues be highlighted with a theme "Biggs High Schools is about YOUR Future!" It was suggested that an alumni Facebook page be developed to feature success stories.

Grades K-8- It was suggested that a Grade 8 to high school program transition program be formalized. It would be good to maximize fieldtrip activities that involve local colleges like the CSUC Science Lab program and Laxon Performances to get students on college campuses so they can see themselves attending. The after school program offers a career club for students.

Goal 5: Planning, Budget and Maintenance of Facilities:

The district has completed "facilities critical hardship" applications to the State. Design plans for modernization upgrades were funded and the planning process has been completed.

The district will place a facilities bond on the June 5th ballot. The bond requires a 55% positive vote to pass. The committee discussed the need for an intensive outreach to the community. Pam Reagan and Nelda Andes explained that the district can only put out information about what the bond would fund. A community-based group that is separate from the district must conduct all campaigning. Suggestions were made to create a Facebook page that shows the proposed facilities and outline the need.

Facilities Improvement for 2011-12

- Three BES rooms had a major upgrade with carpeting, paint and other items prior to school starting
- New playground bark at Richvale Elementary and work on restrooms, cabinetry and heating
- Upgrade to BHS facilities with signage and painting
- District boardroom upgrade
- Partial roof replacement on the District Office building

- Bulletin boards in the BHS gym.

The LDS Church provides community service days at district facilities and will construct a greenhouse at BES on April 28th.

Goal 6: Correlation of annual budget with available resources to meet district goals.

Pam Ragan reported about the budget process and the desire of the district to put as much funding as possible to help schools implement their school plan goals that are aligned to the district goals.

A focus this year is to improve attendance that will impact district revenues. The parent organizations are providing incentives for students who do not miss school during each month.

3) Discuss progress and data for District Goals 1,2 and 3:

S. Doughman shared that data on student achievement is collected regularly in the Reading Mastery and Corrective Reading Programs (K-8). This data is used to re-group students for instruction and monitor program effectiveness. 100% of K-8 students are participating in these programs and instruction is targeted to their instructional level. Teachers are very supportive of the program and report observed student progress. The instructional strategies in the program are now being used in other content areas.

D. Kaelin submitted written input, in his absence, about Goals 1-3.

Goal 1: The district has developed a Title III (English Learners) Program improvement Plan that is an addendum to the Local Education Agency (LEA) Plan. An English Learner leadership team has been formed to develop improvement strategies and an implementation plan.

Goals 2 and 3: At BHS several teachers have been using data to guide instruction. Additional inservice is needed to help teachers with *Data Director* use district-wide. The principal has been doing walk-through observations with feedback and coaching teachers on lesson design. The grade 10 CAHSEE exam will be given in March to all students.

Biggs High School first semester data: Grade 9 students are struggling. 85% of them have at least one failing grade and overall are really struggling in math. Starting in February, the principal will have one-to-one meetings with students to share their STAR test results for the past three years to set a goal for this year. Some grade 10 and 11 students are not meeting credit expectations. All 12th grade students are on track to graduate on time.

Suggestion: Overall, throughout the meeting, committee members suggested it might be prudent to have someone be responsible for PR for the district.

PR suggestions included:

- Utilize the Gridley Herald to publicize district news and successes.
- Put all parent email addresses in Aeries to facilitate communication with parents.
- Develop an electronic newsletter and utilized the *Connect ED* system for communication.
- Highlight Homecoming as a community event.
- Reach out to alumni through a Facebook page.
- Invite alumni to “*Comeback and Care*” event to share their postgraduate journey and successes.
- Establish a community senior discount for athletic events.
- Develop an annual community service project to show the community that the district shares.

Next meeting. March 29, 2012 3:30-5:00 pm