

# Marathon High School Advisory Council

## MEETING MINUTES

November 9, 2010

6:00 PM Marathon High School Media Center

**SAC Board Members in Attendance:** Principal Hammond Gracy; Assistant Principals Wendy McPherson and Liz Logan; Teresa Konrath; Luis Gonzalez; Anita Nelson; Karen McKeon; Karen Angle; David and Tara Coleman; Beth Ann Connell; Diane Culver; and SGA President Annabelle Walker; **Not in attendance:** Cindy Durkin; Delvis Cabrera; Debra Davis; Tracy Hannah; Gerard “Spook” Roussin; Tammy Bruland; Mike Puto and Regina Morgan.

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm by SAC Chair, Luis Gonzalez, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. **SAC Chair Report:** Mr. Gonzalez requested approval of the following:
  - a. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Karen McKeon to approve the minutes of the October 5, 2010 meeting. Karen Angle seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.
2. **Athletic Update:** Athletic Director Teresa Konrath gave an update as follows:
  - a. Fall sports have nearly come to a close. The goal this year was to have at least 50% of students involved in athletics; sports physicals are on file for 326 students, which is meeting the goal.
  - b. In addition to varsity and junior varsity, efforts have been made to include the Middle School in sports, and that has been accomplished in volleyball and swimming. Basketball and soccer will include the Middle School, with an 8-game schedule. Some volunteer coaches are stepping up to the plate to assist.
  - c. Girls’ Cross Country has advanced to regionals, and a few runners will make it to the state tournament. The golf team made it to districts.
  - d. Some new, stricter rules regarding fundraising to support the athletic program are in effect, and community partners or parents considering fundraisers need to contact Ms. Konrath when making arrangements. The October Stuffed Pig fundraiser was a huge success, and raised dollars for athletics as well as for other areas. Tickets will be on sale as of the second week of December for the Booster Club’s 18<sup>th</sup> annual \$10,000 raffle, which benefits the athletic department.
  - e. A new coach for girls’ basketball, Leslie Lindsay, has been hired and is coaching her first practice this evening.
3. **Dolphins of Distinction:** SAC President Luis Gonzalez and Board Member Tara Coleman presented the November “Dolphins of Distinction” awards:
  - a. Patti Clark is recognized as the staff member recipient, due to her “going above and beyond” efforts as school bookkeeper.
  - b. Kristen Butcher is recognized as the instructional recipient due to the many hats she wears, including the roles of counselor for grades 6-9

- and ESE students; culinary and anti-bullying committees member; and monitor of class size compliance and student attendance.
- c. Donors of items for the gift baskets, among others, included Tara Coleman and National Distributors.
4. ***Student Government Association Report:*** SGA President Annabelle Walker reported on the following:
- a. Current initiatives include a “texting kills pledge,” in which students commit to not text while driving. A campus-wide recycling initiative is in the works.
  - b. Classes are working on the following: *seniors*: fundraising for their grad bash trip; *juniors*: upcoming cookie dough sales, plus a car wash and yard sale, TBA; *freshmen*: poinsettia sales and a spring carnival.
5. ***Principal’s Report:*** Principal Gracy reported on the following:
- a. An AVID (Advancement via Individual Development) site visit took place today, with the state and regional AVID directors in attendance, plus Superintendent Burke and the district chief operations and chief academic officers. Officials visited the classrooms of the 120 AVID students taught by Ms. Buhyoff and Ms. Doney.
  - b. AVID emphasis will be on creating uniformity in whiteboard format, so students can readily determine assignments and expectations; and on continuing to implement effective strategies, which can be used in all classrooms, not just in AVID.
6. ***Assistant Principals’ Reports:*** High School Principal McPherson and Middle School Principal Logan reported on the following:
- a. High School and Middle School honor roll assemblies will take place during first and second periods, respectively, Friday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. For Middle School, those students on the principal’s list will be recognized. For the high school, the 137 students in three GPA categories will be recognized for the honor roll if their quarter GPAs are 3.0-3.4; for the high honor roll if 3.5-3.99 and for the principal’s honor roll if 4.0+.
  - b. Honor roll students will be treated to a luncheon in the baseball dugout, catered by and courtesy of Centennial Bank.
  - c. Diane and Anthony Culver were recognized for once again hosting the Middle School homecoming dance at the Rec Center. A Mr. and Ms. were elected to represent each Middle School class, and reigned at the dance.
  - d. Ms. Logan distributed copies of the District testing schedule and reported on upcoming tests: Progress Monitoring #2, which replaces the MBA, will be underway between November 8<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Some tests, including science and math, will be administered online. Paper tests will be used for the time being in other subject areas and reading. Periodic FAIR testing is coming up at the end of this month, and continuing through January. Right Score, or FCAT practice writing tests, will be administered this week to 8<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> graders; essays are sent away for scoring, and returned so students receive a third-party

evaluation of their writing. It was noted that FCAT reading tests in the spring will be administered over two days, rather than one.

7. **Open Agenda Items:** SAC President Gonzalez asked for any additional input:
  - a. The need to promptly fill the math department opening was discussed. The administration has been attempting to find a qualified, master's-degree-holding candidate, in part so that some students' DE credits are not jeopardized.
  - b. Mr. Gracy reported that the Marathon Business and Professional Women's Club has donated \$1500 to the school, which will be used for National Honor Society, honor roll luncheon, and AVID college visitation trip expenses.
  - c. Ms. Ryals reported that SAT preparation sessions are continuing on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons.
  - d. A thank-you note from Ms. Buhyoff, last month's "Dolphin of Distinction," was read.
  - e. To a question as to whether there are any SAC funds available from this or previous years, Mr. Gracy requested that if they are, the money should be distributed equally to all teachers, or to something that will benefit all teachers.
  - f. Maintenance of the school baseball field and soccer fields was discussed. Mr. Gracy reported that high school athletic rules prohibit use of the fields outside of the regular seasons, which is why this may not be a priority. The challenge of having overlapping sports was discussed; Mr. Gracy expressed his conviction that sports seasons should not overlap, so that one sport can conclude before another begins, and students have the opportunity to participate in multiple sports without conflicts or distractions.
  - g. Mr. Gonzalez reported that the next meeting would be on December 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the media center.
8. **Adjournment:** There being no other business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

(Note: The monthly calendar and testing schedules are available on the MHS and District Web sites, respectively.)

Minutes submitted November 12, 2010 by Anita J. Nelson, SAC Secretary