

BHS PAC Meeting – February 13, 2014

Meeting brought to order by President Monica Shouse at 12:15
Introductions of all members and guests

Principal Kevin Conwell announced that BHS would be participating in the Smarter Balanced Field Test that is replacing the CRT. Juniors take the Smarter Balanced, but sophomores will still be taking the CRT. The technology piece of this new test is the only logistical issue. It is a 3-part test: A non-performance task; performance task (class activity); and a performance task at problem solving. A trial run will happen 3/18-3/20 and a Math trial run 3/31 and 4/1.

Next, Mr. Conwell discussed the dropout rate statistics in the state of Montana. Drop outs costs states millions of dollars each year. 80% of male inmates and 75% of female inmates across the country are high school dropouts. HS dropouts earn approximately \$9200 less per year than graduates. Mr. Conwell shared an excel spreadsheet showing Montana HS dropout statistics over the past several years. The dropout rate has decreased about 3%. BHS has an average dropout rate compared to other AA schools in the state.

In an effort to help students stay on track at school and graduate, an A to X – Alternative to Expulsion program is being used. Mr. Gibson talked about the student support center which has four parts: student outreach; alternative to expulsion for HS and MS students; online learning; freshman transitions (strategies and transition support). In the student support center, MT digital academy is available for students needing credit recovery. To learn more, please contact Mr. Gibson.

Treasurer's report: Elizabeth Linsky was not present, but Monica gave a quick summary of activity and funds – we have about \$8000 in the checking account, we received \$3800 from Lifetouch, our only fundraiser and that amount is much lower than last year.

There was discussion about seeing if retired teachers in the Gallatin valley would be interested in assisting with Senior Sober. Chris and Monica will make some phone calls.

There was some AfterProm discussion on how to get more parents involved.

We also discussed donating to the Take a Seat at Willson Auditorium campaign.

Volunteer opportunities still available:
The AfterProm still needs volunteers.
Shadow the president and treasurer next year.
Volunteer coordinator

Meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm – minutes respectfully submitted by Chris Harmon

Next meeting: Thursday April 10 at 12:15 in the BHS library