

Curriculum and Athletics  
Committee Meeting Report  
February 5, 2020

Board Representatives in Attendance: Dr. Mitch Silver and Dr. Prebble Ramswell  
Other Board Members in Attendance: Jim Luttrell  
February 5, 2020

There were approximately 20-25 people in attendance. One member per family signed in with email and area of interest.

Several coaches/teaches were in attendance... volleyball, swimming, band...

General comments:

- Digital sign was highly effective- need more often; **request for next week ahead of enrollment deadline.\***
- People think there will be one path not options; **need to provide sample tracks** so people see options and we are just like any other high school but better
- Collegiate high school is at capacity and doing a lottery- people waiting to see if student got in; this can work in our favor- **publicize that we are just like collegiate- same opportunities**
- Tendency for public to focus on what we CAN'T do; we need to **refocus conversation to what we CAN provide**
  - Low teacher/student ratio
- Need to inform public of curriculum partnerships and programs ASAP
- When we notify potential students they have received a spot, include a list of electives and interests for them to choose from **or** to rank in terms of interest
- Many parents are considering home-schooling for 9<sup>th</sup> to see what we offer and then, depending, apply next year
- General consensus that Destin-area students do not want to attend FWBHS
- Can we say that we are recruiting a higher caliber principal and educators? Use as a selling point...
- **Immediate need to provide an informational flyer with different angle to talking points**
  - **Focus on what we can provide, the benefits of attending DHS**
    - Low student/teacher ratio
    - More teacher time
    - Same program as collegiate or STEMM but more!
    - We WILL have honors/advanced
    - We WILL have different tracks
    - We WILL have sports (name them)
    - Students WILL leave with a 2-year degree
    - Students WILL leave with a Bright Futures 4-year paid tuition
    - Ability to do more and mold school

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General discussion was held regarding need to start narrowing down curriculum, electives, sports. Some decisions were made, knowing principal has final decision.

Programs

- Strong desire and decision to honor a STEAM curriculum; can be focus of the AICE areas of focus
- Arts (performing and visual) very important; decision to start with two arts and add another each year
  - Music as early focus (Sinfonia showed early interest in partnership)
  - Drama or Dance as second focus? Unsure
  - Open to best options
- Significant interest in the Lockheed-Martin (Drew Palmer) partnership for cyber, tech, drones, etc; **desire to begin formally establish and determine partnership**
- Clear need to offer band... Mrs. Noe, local band teacher extraordinaire, was there and had many great suggestions.
  - Noted expense of instruments even renting; options for grants
  - Band is co-curricular – perhaps offered last period of day as with Athletics
  - Mrs. Linton to explore joint program opportunities with FWBHS

Athletics

- Decision to start announcing sports we WILL have now.
  - Football is a need but not ready for first year. It's expensive (about \$500/player) and requires more numbers. Focus on bringing for second year;
    - for first year provide bus/shuttle to FWBHS for those athletes to go participate after school; Eagle Shuttle interested in helping- contact is on the committee (Denise Forrester)
  - Decision to offer more individual-focused teams that need less/no equipment and rely on club/all-star teams for training.
    - Tennis, golf, swimming, archery, cross country/track, cheer/dance
  - Decision to have team-sports that utilize gym or available fields
    - Basketball, soccer, volleyball, baseball/softball
  - Decision to have weightlifting since all programs can utilize same equipment
  - Strong desire for Athletics as a subject instead of PE offered as last period of the day to allow student to attend practices off-site
  - Some sports better suited to be clubs: lacrosse, flag football, sailing

**\*IMMEDIATE ACTION ITEMS IN BOLD**