



Opportunity Youth Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2017

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Present: Elizabeth Alvarez, Cidalia Azevedo, Dana Bunnett, Ashley Matysiak for Marie Busque, Mariel Caballero, Tami Moore for Deryk Clark, Linda Dawson, Steve Duong, Sandy Fakaosi, Terry Grube, Joe Herrity, John Hogan, Alyssa Lynch, Robert Menicocci, Steve Olmos, Laurie Pianka, Nicky Ramos-Beban, Summer Reeves, Sara Reyes, Jeff Schmidt, Louis Smith, Jamie Wang

Location: Oak Grove Room

1. Welcome

- Steve welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Introductions

- Committee members introduced themselves.

3. Progress Report – 2016-17 – Enrollment, Attendance & Budget (by site)

Nicky distributed and reviewed highlights of the report.

- WASC visit is set for May 2017.
- Implemented SiaTech curriculum.
- Started block scheduling, requiring students to attend specified blocks of time each week. This is improving attendance.
- OYA work study program started at SCCOE. There are 12 interns.
- ConXion has opened and now has 15 students. The ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for this Friday, March 3 at 2:00. Everyone is invited.

Current Projects

- Nicky is working on the budget for the next three years. SCCOE is contributing \$1M this year but the aim is to reduce this in coming years.
- Nicky is working on finalizing the work experience program.

- Sobrato is low on enrollment. So Nicky and her team are working on a campaign in North County. OYA will close Sobrato if more students are not enrolled. Steve asked if the committee felt SCCOE should dedicate more resources in this area. Suggestions include:
 - Partner with Nova
 - Advertise on TV at local DMV offices
 - Move Sobrato to a location near a transit line
 - Partner with other non-profits in the area
 - Partner with libraries and Starbucks
 - Work with Milpitas Unified School District to gather students. Work out transfers for students who are having trouble.

Needs

- Ongoing SiaTech curriculum professional development
- Technology – waiting for funding
- Childcare for students with children – Head Start is helping. Student Interns and/or AmeriCorps may be able to help although liability would be a concern. “Child Watch” is possible where someone watches children with the parent(s) in the same room. Mary Ann Dewan might be able to ask Jolene Smith for help from First 5.
- Plan for post-secondary education and/or employment.

Laurie Pianka showed a 90-second video of OYA students giving feedback on SiaTech. There is a Youth Leadership Summit set for March 17, 8:30 – 2:00 at San Jose City College. Laurie distributed the flyer.

Statistics

Nicky shared the current enrollment of 187. ADA (student work productivity) is around 47%. Student are attending five days per week but 66% work productivity is needed to support the budget. Special Ed attendance is higher than general ed. Suggestions include:

- Ask students what would make them want to come more often and produce more work.
- Community building events seem to increase attendance. Be thoughtful about messaging and encourage students to come to school.
- Need an incentive program.
- Front desk check in. Ask students about their goal for the day. Paras could do the check in.
- Track time needed to accomplish goals and graduate. Share this with students. (i.e. At a rate of 4 hours per day and 3 days per week, it will take this long to graduate.)

- Encourage students to come to school to do work where staff can assist instead of trying to do it all at home. Home causes distractions. Staff can help if students do their work at school.
- Examine what's working now and replicate that. Share love, care and respect.
- Work with Second Harvest to offer food as an incentive and to help our students and their families.
- Partner with the DMV to work with students on any outstanding driving issues. Superior Court has an amnesty program.
- Work with Santa Clara or Santa Cruz County for a tattoo removal program. Check with Valley Medical Center.
- Nicky will bring academic data to the next meeting.

4. Number of Credits for Graduation

OYA currently requires 220 credits to graduate. OYA is looking at creating different tracks for graduation. Several tracks could be available. UC & CSU require 220 credits. The minimum required by the state is 130 but this is reserved for foster and incarcerated youth. A student could start on one track and decide later to go for more or less credits. The main difference between 200 and 220 credits is the number of electives. Challenging a course should be available if the student can pass a unit test. Steve will present Jon Gundry with the credit models and he will determine the course of action.

7. Navigators / SIF Update

The Opportunity Youth Partnership is currently serving 20 OYA students. They are struggling to reach their desired goals. The next opportunity has better integration with teachers. The Pathways Coordinator has been deployed.

Nicky thanked the committee for their time and dedication.