

SOS

Recommendations

March 2008

Below you will find a list of the recommendations that have been culled through two years of work. Three separate groups – a faculty focus group, a student focus group, and a teacher focus group – met separately to put together recommendations. Representatives from those groups met to come up with this working list:

1. Examine the nutritional value of the vending machines. Consider limiting them to more health-oriented products.
2. Breaks are breaks: Make quarter and/or semester breaks true breaks and do not assign any work over that period of time.
3. Improve communication within the community – especially between the school and the parents:
 - A. Use the schools publications – and especially the “Parent/Teacher Handbook” -- to convey the school’s philosophy concerning how stress will be diminished in the school.
 - B. Make the attendance of the “Parent/Handbook/Discussion” evening at S.I. mandatory for all parents. At this meeting, parents will not only be shown the school’s specific philosophy concerning student wellness, but further, the parents will be shown how the school’s web page functions.
4. Examine the current schedule, and look specifically at schedules that benefit the promotion of student wellness. Some of the specific goals of a schedule should: help teachers teach students better organizational skills; allow teachers to use a variety of teaching methods to meet all the learning needs of the diverse, student population; allow teachers to focus on the promotion of subject “mastery” and not simply “performance”; allow students more one-on-one contact with teachers
5. Examine **how to expand or increase** the study spaces **and group work space** available to the student population **throughout the school**
6. There is only seating available for 138 students at one time in the library – examine how to increase or maximize the space.