

Professional Development Committee

May 9, 2007, 2:45 - 4:20 P.M.

Principal's Conference Room

Members Present: Kevin Quattrin, Susan Lee, Elizabeth Purcell, John Stiegeler, Grace Curcio, Hillary McKinney, Steve Bluford, Patty Zarkin, Kate Kodros, Paul Molinelli

Excused: Charlie Dullea, Meredith Galvin

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

Michelle Levine's Sabbatical Proposal

The Committee began discussing Michelle Levine's sabbatical application. Paul explained that this proposal had been submitted after the deadline because the opportunity to work with the Edgewood organization emerged only this spring, coinciding with our FOL Action Plan item to create a comprehensive wellness program and the WASC Visiting Team's approval of this work. Michelle would join the meeting later to explain her proposal in more detail and to answer any questions.

Discussion ensued and questions were posed. As it's written, can this sabbatical project truly be comprehensive, or will it be another "additional" program? Is there enough time to do this well and adequately plan? Discussion followed about a number of the programs already in place (such as Teen Screen) and whether we knew whether they were effective. The Committee also discussed the importance of defining what wellness means at SI, bringing stakeholders into the process, setting appropriate and achievable goals, and determining how we're going to assess and evaluate as critical first-steps in developing a comprehensive program.

Discussion about the role of Edgewood followed, including how long the grant funding would last (three years) and whether this was the best organization to assist us in our efforts to create a wellness program. Committee members also expressed concern about the organizational structure of a wellness program, including who would head such a program (a new committee, the HEC, Counseling Department, etc.).

The Committee agreed that they should invite Michelle to the meeting to respond to these questions and clarify aspects of her proposal. Michelle arrived and began addressing the Committee's questions, many of which were raised earlier in the meeting. Michelle specifically addressed questions about Teen Screen and any data on its effectiveness. Michelle shared that Mercy and Riordan have also been doing Teen Screen, and that data on the program's effectiveness is available through UCSF.

Discussion and questions continued regarding how the proposed sabbatical project can effectively fit into a school-wide wellness program that is only vaguely defined at this point. Michelle noted that Edgewood can help us with defining our program, assessing our strengths and needs, working with our Health Committee, and crafting a mission statement and goals. More discussion ensued regarding Michelle's specific role in the wellness program and which person(s) or committees would be responsible for its creation and implementation.

More discussion followed about Edgewood's funding and whether it would remain available for three years. Since we would be one of three schools participating in a

research study, we would be guaranteed ongoing funding and assistance, if we commit now to participate. A meeting with members of the Edgewood organization was scheduled for Monday, May 21, during which time more would be known about Edgewood's role and its capacity to assist the school with this substantial project.

After Michelle was excused, the Committee continued to meet briefly, reviewing and summarizing its observations, questions, and concerns. The PDC agreed that Michelle should revise her proposal to clarify her role and to address more clearly the broader "comprehensive" purpose of this sabbatical project. Despite its reservations about the proposal, the Committee agreed that this work is vitally important and ought to move forward. The Committee agreed to forward the proposal to the principal for his recommendation, in addition to a list of the Committee's observations, concerns, and questions about this sabbatical project.

Summer Grant Updates

Paul distributed a spreadsheet providing an overview of the PDC's grant awards, a brief rationale for its decisions, and an update on requested proposal revisions.

Meeting adjourned.