**Middle School Counseling Advisory Board**

**Minutes**

**March 31, 2014**

**Introductions**

**Updates:**1. The SUCCESSFUL Career Fairs at each school

                2. The activities at the school - classroom curriculum and groups

-Grade level activities - 6th – Bullying/Conflict/ GPA

- 7th – Learning Styles

- 8th – ACT Explore/EDP

-Groups – Academic Strugglers, Grief, Self-Advocacy, Religious Diversity

                3. Project TEAM/bullying programs

4. 5th Grade scheduling information

**Walkabout Activity:**

1. Coffee Talk - past ones will be listed and suggestions for the future ones will also be a column.  The groups can talk about which ones to keep and ones to add.

Double up with Parent University/ sports. Some other overlay

-Past Programs

-ACT Parent mtg.

-HS \* Elem. Transition mtgs

- College Knowledge

-How to Hug Your Porcupine – communication skills/sex/drugs/alcohol

-Technology Information – Sexting

-New Programs

-Refusal Skills (GWBCC)

-Youth Assistance/ Mental Health- Suicide/depression/anxiety

-How to create a balance in life (time management)

-Tech Time – How much is too much – addiction/peer pressure

-Study skills strategy workshop

-Family coffee talk – parents and students with a speaker

-Full year calendar of counseling events

2. Promotion of Program: Suggestions may stem from community awareness and other was to help people have a better understanding of the many things the department offers. How to get community /advisory committee more involved.

-Utilize Open House by surveys, information distribution

-E-Blast monthly from the MS Counseling – updates on events and activities

- Continue Coffee Talks

-Invites specific targeted groups parents/students to attend activities

- Advisory committee members assist in co-hosting speakers for career day

-Coffee talks at the end of school day – have an activity for the students and parents in another room

-Parent testimonials about programing

-Parent surveys at 6th grade orientation or done at the beginning of the year, or monthly at all grade levels

-Exit survey at 8th grade promotion – QR code leading to survey

-Promote on Channel 19

- Target parents of students in support groups

-Laker District newsletter – Ask the Counselor Column

3. Community Resources: Suggestion of how to build better diversity connections as well as any other suggestions of community resources.

-Parent/community focus group at each marking period

-Parent planning end of the year activities

-Parents on diversity committee

-Parent University (AVID) – how do we advertise and keep enrollment up?

-Local museums/weather stations

-Parent-led extra-curricular activities

-Guest Speaker series (racial/ethnic/religious/diversity)

-Utilize WBPL for summer reading assistance – mobile bus at schools

-Clergy Association

-YA – teen nights – Parks & Rec

-AAA at middle school

-Jr. Optimist

-Community service club

-Multi-Cultural education

-Dad’s Club

-Learning Express Research

-Reading & math clubs

4. Programming: New Ideas/Retooling Past Programs

-Data ( Pre/Post) from groups

-Mentorship Program

-Struggling students – not just academic

-Peer Mediation

-Adult Mentor program – retool

-Extension of awareness/education of technology responsibility for students and parents

-Self-Esteem & Depression

-Community Service Opportunities

-STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math); AWIM (A World in Motion) GM Prog.

-Jr. National Honor Society

-Using advisory time for clubs/organizations to meet

-Parent – Tap in to their expertise - sponsoring programs (funding concern)