

Academic Excellence
Thursday, September 3rd 2015
5:30pm Exhibition Hall

In attendance: Eric Williams, Brooke Tousingant, Mari Bergerson, Claudia Gumbinger-Hungs, Jennifer Danforth, Roxane Lehman, Mary Hess, Ellad Tadmor, Jessica Wohler, Ryan Dowhower

1. Introductions
2. Follow up on School-Life Balance Survey:
 - Staff World Café update and next steps
 - o Standing agenda item for faculty meetings this year
 - Roxanne survey update:
 - o Looking for “next steps” in survey data, looking for more simple ways to show the story of what the survey data says. Hoping to use the diverse range of voices in AEC to discuss and synthesize the survey data to have a better way to present and communicate the data to school community (board, parents, teachers, etc.)
 - o Need time for Roxanne, Mari and Jason to compile data for the committee to review and synthesize.
 - o The data did not take into account students who choose AP, CIS and Honors classes (which can have up to one hour of homework per course)
 - o Roxanne will send out PowerPoint for committee members to review before discussing at a future meeting (perhaps an extended session).
3. Discussion of meeting length and start time.
 - Discussion about whether meetings should be one hour or 1.5 hours.
 - Motion by Eric Williams to begin at 5:45pm and keep the meetings to an hour (as a goal). Motion Approved.
4. College Admission Efforts: Discussion
 - Need to support the students going through the college application and admission process since it is such an emotional and stressful time for both students and parents.
 - Claudia presents areas of consideration for college assistance effort
 - Jennifer Danforth described some initiatives that need some coordination and assistance to make happen, some of what we’re currently doing, possibility of creating consortium with other local classical schools, discuss how to form relationships with schools that seem like good fits for our students.
 - Related to School/Life balance in terms of giving purpose and meaning to the hard work that students do.
 - Discussion about whether there’s room in the AEC’s agenda/meeting time to cover the items on this list, whether it falls within the mission of this committee as charged by the board. Desire to put closure on items worked on last year.
5. Other possible charges for the committee:

- Re-writing the Trivium portion of the website...check in with Linda LaFrombois to see what progress has been made on this plan. Qcomp pedagogical leads for SoG, SoL, SoR can write them up for us to review.
- Virtues and Skills curriculum from a few years ago

Agenda Items:

1. Continue working with projects from previous years to allow completion and closure.
2. Elect a new chair for the Academic Excellence Committee.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 1st at 5:45pm