

**PARADISE VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT – SECONDARY  
Dr. John Weimer – Assistant Superintendent**

**High School Graduation Committee**

October 28, 2004 – 3:00-5:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Dr. Weimer, Jon Walk, Jean Scharrer, Marti Marziano, Curt Jablin, Jeff Billings, Kayce Sanchez, Mitch vonGnechten, Susan Benjamin, Jim Brewer, Laura Lamberto-White, Ronnie Milburn, Susie Waldrom, Julia Sandler. Absent: Bev Lewis

Call to order: 3:00 p.m.

I. Dr. Weimer went over the chart notes from the last meeting. There was a consensus of the group as to the meeting ground rules as follows:

- If you disagree you must speak up
- Meeting will start on time and end on time
- Come prepared
- Wait for distribution of minutes before announcing decisions or discussion
- No secrets
- Be respectful of each other

Agenda for today's meeting and minutes from last week's meeting were distributed. Topics for discussion from last meeting include total graduation credits, changes (if any), exceptions to any program or school, and possible elimination of class rankings. No corrections or additions noted from the floor. Dr. Weimer distributed the following: Title 7 data from the Arizona Department of Education, graph of enrollment decline, Class of 2006 AIMS performance information from the Assessment Department, university tuition waiver information, individual registration guides, and high school graduation rate report. Time was given for members to peruse handouts (7 minutes) prior to discussion.

Dr. Weimer began a discussion of page 6 from the high school registration guides. The book was printed prior to the Governing Board decision to keep our district requirement at 22 credits. Contemporary Issues is now an elective rather than a requirement except at SMHS where petition was approved to keep CI a requirement. Dr. Weimer reiterated the importance of having the course descriptions in the books match the courses that are being taught. There are some discrepancies. We must make sure that what we advertise is what we're teaching. The differences between our district requirements and the state requirements were noted. The importance of math was discussed in relation to passing the AIMS test. Science is expected to be added to AIMS after next year. Reference to student attitude regarding AIMS was noted and discussed, including the piece regarding community colleges not requiring a high school diploma for enrollment. All of the Standards are included in the AIMS test and are also included in our curriculum. Combining AIMS and Stanford 9 also noted. Dr. Weimer briefly discussed the changes to the Senior Exit surveys. Some questions were added and some rewritten to give us better insight to the reason people are exiting (and entering) our district.

The next discussions focused on the Alternative Programs in our district (handout). Jean Scharrer gave an overview of the various types of programs included within the realm of Prospect Middle School, Polaris High School, Discovery School, Project Promesa and Prep Academy. Online courses and Plato were discussed. The biggest concern with Alternative Programs is staffing needs. We have the capability of expanding these programs but staffing continues to be a challenge...positions posted but no interest. Beginning next quarter evening classes will be offered. This will give us the opportunity to service more students and enhance programs. The Greenway Middle School physical education and vocational education facilities, wood shop, etc. can be utilized in the evening. How current graduation requirements impact students in alternative programs was also noted and discussed. Today's agenda was to disseminate foundational information, no proposal or action required.

Since our last meeting, Curt Jablin had researched physical education programs statewide and nationally. (Handout) The committee will address concerns about what constitutes a PE waiver, i.e. marching band,

athletics, outside activities. Curt will meet with Dr. Weimer prior to the November 18<sup>th</sup> meeting to help shape the agenda. The physical education requirement will be the focus of our next meeting.

A call for final comments for the good of the cause. None heard.

Meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

**Next meeting: November 18<sup>th</sup> – 3:00-5:00 p.m. – CRC Yellow Room**