

**MINORITY STUDENT ACHIVEMENT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 21, 2006
MEETING MINUTES**

The MSA committee met on Tuesday February 21st in the principal's conference room. Mr. Mark Richardson was not able to attend and Karla Butler conducted the meeting. The following members were present:

Cimino, Dana (parent)
Jasper, Carol (parent)
Peterson, Celeste (parent)
Pike, Susie (ESOL teacher)

The following agenda items were covered:

1. Performance/entertainment at upcoming MSA coffee:

Unfortunately the Chamber Chorus cannot perform (conflict with other concert).

Suggestion of Guitar Ensemble.

Suggestion of Westfield student who won Channel 4 Black History Month essay writing contest—read her essay.

***Karla will follow up...

2. Presentation of latest grade data.

Mark Richardson will cover this at the parent coffee.

3. Potluck Dinner for MSA Meeting on March 15th.

Suggestion of "Tapas" theme. All participants will bring in an appetizer of their own choosing. The following members have signed up to bring the following items:

Carol Jasper—Honey Bar B Q wings

Dana Cimino-Something Italian

Susie Pike—something Irish

Karla Butler—Egg Rolls

**Celeste and Carol will coordinate table decorations etc.

4. Telephone system for parent calls.

According to Mike Campbell, the system is running. Messages will have to be recorded in English and Spanish. System will have to run on Saturdays and Sundays only not to conflict with daily Westfield attendance calls.

5. Seat arrangement for parent coffee.

Noted by Karla Butler and this will be given to custodial staff when they set up for the event. Seating arrangement to be small tables to facilitate discussion and group interaction.

6. Agenda for the March 15th coffee:

- a. have food available first

- b. student data (presented by Mark)
- c. should we have TV's running with video from the International Night
- d. questions/open discussion

7. Congratulations to Celeste and the Great Job on the Newsletter!!!!

Should go home with this month's edition of the School Newspaper.

8. BITS-Update

Carol reviewed numbers and attendance. Generally we have had at least 40 students per session and at least 20 tutors per session. Program is going well and the word got out early this year! End of Year Banquet we hope to see a principal from each school.

No word on confirmation of driving pool for bringing students to BITS.

9. Open Discussion

Concerns that the WHS website needs to be revamped and updated. Information many times is out of date and the website is difficult to navigate.

Should there be a student award at the end of the year sponsored by the MSA committee? Some type of financial reward given to that student? Could a corporate partner help with that?

Suggestion from Mary Dunn (not at meeting tonight, but sent via e-mail) that our next MSA coffee be advertised with the help of our Parent Liaison to help make and translate a flyer into Spanish. This flyer could be distributed in class and have kids take it home for parents to see and returned back for an extra credit point.