

Belmont High School
School Site Council Minutes
October 11, 2007

- I. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by President Bong Le at 3:45 p.m.
- II. **Roll Call:** Secretary Jerry Reyes called roll. Quorum met. Ten members present: Deborah Chapman, Ana Gonzalez (arrived at 4:30 p.m.), Sunny Keaton, Bong Le, Jose Nuñez, James Perreault, Jerry Reyes, Maria Romero, Alexandra Romero, and Gary Yoshinobu. Others present: Tom Chastain, Dalton Cole, Rosa Maria Hernandez, Cynthia Kholos, Juan Palomares, and Carlos Rodriguez.
- III. **Minutes:** Minutes of SSC election meeting held on September 12, 2007, were read. Ms. Keaton noted that the parent alternate is Martha Zamora and is not correctly reflected in the minutes. Ms. Keaton moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Ms. Chapman seconded. Motion passed.
- IV. **Certification of New Faculty Representative and Election of Parliamentarian:** Maria Gonzalez on Local District 4 certified that Sam Cucciniello's faculty seat on SSC is vacant because he accepted a position as dean at Downtown Business Magnet. Mr. James Perreault is the faculty alternate, so he now takes Mr. Cucciniello's place on the council. His term expires 8/30/09. Since Mr. Cucciniello was the parliamentarian, the council needs to replace him. Ms. Gonzalez opened to floor to nominations for parliamentarian. Ms. Keaton nominated Mr. Perreault who declined. Ms. Chapman nominated Mr. Nuñez who accepted. The council elected Mr. Nuñez parliamentarian by acclamation. The school will have to select an alternate faculty member to SSC so that the four representative groups maintain parity.
- V. **Additional Counselors Using QEIA Funds:** Tom Chastain, leader teacher of ISOL, proposed using QEIA funds to purchase a counseling aide for each SLC. He explained that ISOL is calling in every student who is failing and that student's parent to discuss appropriate interventions to help each student improve. This is very time consuming and the SLC needs help. Ms. Keaton moved to fund 6 six-hour counseling aides for the remainder of the year. Jerry Reyes seconded. Discussion ensued. It was pointed out that it may be difficult to find personnel willing to work only until the end of June and not have a job that continues into the next school year. Someone suggested finding counseling interns at local colleges to fill these positions. Dr. Hernandez said that the district may not allow Belmont to use QEIA funds this way. Others noted that QEIA funds, starting next year (2008-2009 school year), must be used to reduce the student to counselor ratio to 300:1. Funding these position will cost approximately \$110,000 (\$18,317 for a half year position times six positions). The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Nuñez moved to hire 3 additional counselors (one per track) to reduce the counselor's load this year. _____ seconded the motion. Again, it was noted that it may be difficult to find personnel willing to work only until the end of June and not have a job that continues into the next school year when several SLCs will move to Vista Hermosa. Funding these positions will cost approximately \$126,000 (\$41,923 for a half year position times three positions). The motion was approved by general consent.

- VI. **Administrator for Computer Science Academy:** President Bong Le turned the gavel over to Vice President Sunny Keaton. Mr. Le moved to use QEIA funds to purchase an administrator to oversee the Computer Science Academy. Jerry Reyes seconded. Mr. Juan Palomares, lead teacher of CSA, gave reasons why CSA needs an administrator. Others objected and gave their reasons against the motion. Dr. Hernandez and Mr. Yoshinobu both explained that having an administrator for each certified SLC is the model Superintendent Alonzo supports and that Belmont has approval to use QEIA funds to purchase this position for this year. Mr. Le noted that having another administrator on staff should free up more time for all administrators to spend increased time supervising instruction. He requested that all administrators allot one hour a day to visiting classrooms. Mr. Nuñez is worried about hiring a new administrator when Belmont may lose teachers when we renorm in the spring. Dr. Hernandez said that schools with QEIA funds will not lose teachers with the spring renorming. (Belmont will receive the last 20% of QEIA funds in the spring.) Mr. Perreault noted that since this model will happen anyway

next year, it's better to have the administrator on board sooner than later. Mr. Nuñez asked Mr. Le to amend his motion to add 2 administrators, one for CSA and one for Newcomer. Mr. Le did not wish to amend his motion. Ms. Keaton called for a vote. The motion passed with one no vote and one abstention.

VII. Debriefing on QEIA Training: Mr. Cole gave a summary of the training Belmont's QEIA Team received earlier in the day. Team members are SSC Chair Bong Le, UTLA Chapter Chair Michael Bin, Principal Gary Yoshinobu, SSC Parent Maria Romero (not able to attend today), AP Diane Panossian, and Title I Coordinator Dalton Cole. Dr. Hernandez noted that a portion of Belmont's QEIA funds (approximately \$315,000) will go to the 2 pilots housed on Belmont's campus because the QEIA allotment was based on the census that included the students in the pilots.

VIII. Adjournment: Mr. Le adjourned the meeting at 5:30 p.m.