



VVECHS • CECA • FECHS Advisory Team Meeting Agenda

Friday, February 5, 2021
Microsoft Teams
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

- I. Welcome
- II. Pasos Program – Mr. Art Valdespino
- III. EPCC Spring 2021 Updates
- IV. Principals' Updates
- V. Registration
- VI. ECHS Blueprint
- VII. Other
- VIII. Next Meeting



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Attendees (See attached sign-in sheet)

I. Welcome
Dr. Amaya welcomed everyone.

II. Pasos Program – Mr. Art Valdespino
Mr. Art Valdespino, VV English Department, presented on the Pasos Program. The program aims to encourage students to explore how they feel culturally in our border region. Pasos is currently in nine early college high schools and serves approximately 1400 students districtwide. The program's focus has been on the English curriculum, but they have started to expand to other disciplines. Ideally, they would like to incorporate as many students as possible starting in their Freshmen year. Course materials and resources are available to high schools for free. Participation is voluntary. Teachers can use the materials as they see fit, in whatever context they want. Pasos offers many opportunities for students and teachers to engage with the EPCC. The program also involves community activities where students, families, teachers, and admins are invited to participate. Mr. Valdespino invites all schools to participate and send him any questions. Mr. Covey asked for a presentation for the VVECHS faculty to see who is interested in joining the program.

III. EPCC Spring 2021 Updates
The Valle Verde campus will be undergoing a major electrical upgrade starting today at 5 PM, with power outages at most campus buildings and ending Wednesday, February 10th. VVECHS campus will not be affected.

Fall planning is underway. Discipline coordinators are working to see what mixture of classes will be offered, face-to-face, hybrid, and online. More details will be available in the coming weeks since Fall 2021 registration opens soon.

Ms. Fan Chen, VV Math Department, sent in a flyer to the team inviting all high school faculty and admin to attend the El Paso Math Teachers' Circle held Friday nights throughout the semester. These events are aimed to bring educators together to play with math and learn from each other. Everyone is welcomed to attend.

Summer 2021 will be a rollover from last summer's schedule with some minor modifications. Dean Badillo updated the team on the billing process during this online world for those students taking a class with an EPCC instructor. Dr. Lachica-Chavez is looking for another way to share that student information for the summer.

Dr. Amaya asked about any plans to offer additional late start classes in the summer than what was requested in previous years. Mr. Frank Clark mentioned SISD would be requesting their regular summer classes for courses that typically need more seats than what can be filled in the regular EPCC schedule. Ms. Diane Duncan said FECHS might be looking for a late start speech class. Dr. Amaya asked for all requested seats to be sent in as soon as possible.

Dr. Martinez asked if the 2021-2022 Academic Calendar is out. They need it to start planning the CECA calendar. As soon as the official calendar is finalized, it will be shared with the team.

IV. Principals' Updates

CECA

CECA currently has students coming onto campus and held the PSAT last week, with 70 students attending. A majority of students are taking a rapid COVID test before coming onto campus.

CECA currently has 70 applicants for the next cohort of students and hopes to end with 100-115 by March. There have been issues reaching parents and students with everything being virtual. Many families don't have access or know-how to attend these events, which becomes an obstacle, but CECA is working on getting around that. The engagement (interview) sessions will begin in the coming weeks for those families who have already applied.

Everything else is going well. CECA is keeping an eye out on staffing with the current changes in enrollment. For instruction, they are working on getting more students to come back to campus. With the safety protocols in place, more parents are starting to send their kids back. Those staff members doing the rapid testing were included in the first round of vaccinations, so CECA continues to work to keep students safe and engaged in their courses.

VVECHS

VVECHS is also wrapping up their application period. They have about 121-125 applications for the next cohort of students but anticipate additional applications coming in during the rest of the semester and summer. The goal is to have a starting class of 110-120 students. They are currently planning the conversations (interviews) with applicants. Teachers and admin will meet with potential students on the afternoons of Friday, February 19th and 26th. Applicants will be contacted in early March about their application status.

VVECHS students returned to campus this week, with only 10% returning (36 students), the lowest number of in-person students in the district. The reason for this could be for several reasons. It could be due to the college classes staying online. Many juniors and seniors have mostly college courses. Also, instruction has been going well. VVECHS instructors have experience with using new technology even before the pandemic hit. The hope is that more students return to campus as the semester goes on. Teachers would feel more comfortable with in-person instruction if they were able to get the vaccine.

VVECHS has their next academic calendar set and will send it to Dr. Amaya's office. Starting next year, in 2022, VVECHS will be sharing their graduation date with YISD Young Woman's Leadership Academy to save on costs. Ms. McNulty will be out for the next week. Forward any counseling questions to Mr. Covey.

The Labster issues seem to be resolved. The Biology Department is looking to have a mixture of Labster and lab manuals in the Fall. Any updates will be forwarded as soon as they are finalized. VVECHS also had four students use PIVOT for a class at RG, but they were able to get the software without problems. There were additional issues with VVECHS students taking classes at other campuses with instructors who weren't aware of the Labster process. Dr. Amaya brought this up to the districtwide coordinators to inform their discipline faculty. Mr. Clark asked if the onsite instructors will have the option to use Labster or the manual. Dr. Amaya will ask the districtwide coordinators and let the team know.

FECHS

FECHS currently has 153 applications in and will be able to fill their 135 seats. Bridge Camps are in the works right now, but they still have problems getting students TSI tested in time for their college courses next year. Another issue they are facing is the reading and writing component of the TSI needed to take Speech. Many students were unable to take Speech because they only had the TSI reading component and could not take the writing. Ms. Duncan will email Dean Badillo to see what can be done for those students.

V. Registration

Spring registration is complete. Ms. Lorena Gonzalez asked that the high school officially cancel any extra sections. Mr. Rene Chavez reminded the team that any students added after Census Date require a letter from the principal/director.

VI. ECHS Blueprint

Dr. Stotts updated the team on what has been mentioned concerning the Blueprint OBMs. The Blueprints for PTECHS and TSTEMS are currently being revised. Dr. Stotts invites anyone interested to sign up for the focus groups.

VII. Other

Dr. Amaya, Dr. Martinez, Mr. Covey, Dean Badillo were able to participate in a panel on early colleges at the TASA Conference.

Mr. Chavez announced the Counseling Institute would be on March 3rd, from 9 AM to 11:30 AM, and asked the team to mark their calendars.

VIII. Next Meeting

The next advisory team meeting will be Friday, March 5th, from 10 AM to 12 PM through Microsoft Teams.

Minutes written by Lorena I. González



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Falcon Early College High School
Advisory Team
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Mr. Luis Caballero	Counselor, FECHS	SISD	lcabal04@sisd.net	(915) 937-3635	
Mr. Frank Clark	Advanced Academics Coordinator	SISD	fclark@sisd.net	(915) 937-0384	FC
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