Middle College High School

Meeting Notes

CCCConfer: 11/6/2012 phone call, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Present:
Cañada College (Jan Roecks), College of San Mateo (Susan Estes), College of the Canyons (Diane Stewart), Contra Costa College (Eric Reed), Grossmont College (Sharon Neumann), Moreno Valley College (Julio Gonzalez), Reedley College (Adelfa Lorenzano), San Diego City College (Randy Barnes), San Joaquin Delta College (Sherry Balian), Santa Ana College (Claudia Flint), West Hills – Lemoore College (Dave Bolt), West Valley College (Joe McDevit), Chancellor’s Office (Barbara Illowsky)

Absent:
San Bernardino Valley College (Gloria Fisher)

1. Welcome
   Barbara Illowsky (Chancellor’s Office) welcomed the group and introduced herself as the 2012-13 MCHS contact.

2. Roll call: alphabetical by college

3. Purpose of monthly calls
   Barbara explained the purposes of the monthly calls. These are “sharing” calls. The calls give all of us an opportunity to discuss issues that might arise in our MCHS programs. The calls also allow us to share our successes and innovations and discuss how we might adapt other programs’ successes. In addition, the calls are a way for the Chancellor’s Office to assist in challenges the programs might be facing, whether individual challenges or as a system. Finally (but not last in importance order), the grant recipients are responsible to add to the Chancellor’s Office MCHS knowledge base for assisting future MCHS programs.

4. Purpose of January summit
   Barbara explained the purposes of the January summit. Not only will we be able to have in-person discussions of the MCHS programs, successes and challenges, but the grant recipients are responsible to add to the Chancellor’s Office MCHS knowledge base for assisting future MCHS programs. Eric Reed will do a demo (himself or bring a faculty member) of the tablets that the students will be using in their mathematics courses.

5. Successes
   Barbara included the submitted successes in the agenda. Three other successes were later submitted and included in these notes.

Joe McDevitt, West Valley:
Our teachers! Not only do they go above and beyond creating an intellectually stimulating, safe and enriching classroom experience, Annie and Josh host monthly outside the classroom activities. . . . touring a haunted house, dinner as a team, plays and cultural events. That is when they aren’t meeting with students one-one-one reviewing assignments, proofing papers, troubleshooting
with counselors through the maze of Naviance and meeting with families in supporting the student in obtaining their goals.

**Eric Reed, Contra Costa:**
Our high school district is providing matching funds to purchase tablet computers for an Algebra class. We will pilot a highly interactive classroom where students can use digital ink to work problems, the teacher can see what each student is doing, and the teacher can instantly share student work with the class. Our hope is that this will create more accountability for each student, as well as create a collaborative excitement in the classroom. We had a tough time getting the purchase order processed, but it is now in the vendor's hands and we should see the tablets within two weeks.

**Claudia Flint, Santa Ana College:**
Successes for Middle College HS @ Santa Ana College: MCHS @ SAC now has an API score over 900 (906), which is the highest in Santa Ana Unified, and one of 10 high schools in Orange County with an API score over 900. In addition, last year we were named a California Title I Academic Achievement Award winner - the only high school in Orange County to get this distinction. Yesterday we were informed that we have been nominated for the 2013 California Distinguished School award!

6. Challenges
Two challenges to discuss had been previously submitted and listed on the agenda. The group discussed them.

How do we get other schools and staff to respect our program? Possible solutions included:
- Invite MCHS principal to deans meetings and division meetings to present.
- MCHS teachers present to faculty and community during flex and other days.
- Our responsibility to promote MCHS by educating community and legislature. These are NOT the top students and we need to promote our success with them.
- MCHS teachers reach out to academic senates and present to them.
- Involve MCHS teachers in college WASC observations.
- Need MCHS English and social science teachers to meet with English and SS faculty to articulate courses and align them better.

Cost of college textbooks: any suggestions from other sites as to how they handle this issue?
- Huge issue for all sites. Some MCHS programs had suggestions for reducing the cost, but annual costs of $50k to $75k on books were voiced.
- Add a “book room” for loaning out books once they are purchased, instead of doing “buy back” each term.
- Access codes are a major problem. Some publishers have lower fees for high school students for access codes. Need to check.
- Custom books with the discipline department getting a “royalty” so that the college faculty are reluctant to look at open textbooks.
- e-books: some have $50 access codes which are less than buying a book.
- Need to educate college faculty about choosing OER (open educational resources such as open textbooks).
- Barbara will contact Una Daly of the OpenCourseware Consortium. She works with the cc’s.
7. Web site additions
   MCHS web page on CCCCO web site:  
   http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/AcademicAffairs/CurriculumandInstructionUnit/MiddleCollegeHighSchool.aspx
   - Just posted: Progress Report form (due 1/31/13) and Final Report form (due 7/31/13)
   - Barbara wants to add a section titled “Resources” to the page. Please send her book and journal recommendations, along with organizations. She will post them on the site.
   - Middle College National Consortium  http://www.mcnc.us/  (Santa Ana and San Joaquin Delta are members.)

8. Agenda topics for December call
   Please email them to Barbara as you think of them.

9. Agenda topics for January summit
   Please email them to Barbara as you think of them.
   Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs Barry Russell will participate in the summit.
Middle College High School

Agenda

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PARTICIPANT DETAILS
> Dial your telephone conference line: (888) 886-3951
> Enter your passcode: 184428#

MCHS web page on CCCCO web site:
http://extranet.cccco.edu/Divisions/AcademicAffairs/CurriculumandInstructionUnit/MiddleCollegeHighSchool.aspx

1. Welcome
2. Roll call: alphabetical by college
   Cañada College (Jan Roecks), College of San Mateo (Susan Estes), College of the Canyons (Diane Stewart), Contra Costa College (Eric Reed), Grossmont College (Sharon Neumann), Moreno Valley College (Julio Gonzalez), Reedley College (Adelfa Lorenzano), San Bernardino Valley College (Gloria Fisher), San Diego City College (Randy Barnes), San Joaquin Delta College (Sherry Balian), Santa Ana College (Sara Lundquist), West Hills – Lemoore College (Dave Bolt), West Valley College (Joe McDevit), Chancellor’s Office (Barbara Illowsky)
3. Purpose of monthly calls
4. Purpose of January summit
5. Successes (see below)
6. Challenges (see below)
7. Web site additions
8. Agenda topics for December call
9. Agenda topics for January summit

Previously submitted successes and challenges to discuss:

Successes:

Dave Bolt, West Hills Lemoore:
One great thing about the Middle College High School is that we had the highest API score in the Kings and Tulare County area—882.

Diane Stewart, College of the Canyons:
Academy of the Canyons (AOC’s) current Academic Performance Index score API is 937 (out of 1000). The high school district’s goal is 800. AOC has exceeded the district’s goal for the past 4 years.

Julio C. Gonzalez, Moreno Valley College:
from our graduating class of 2012, in June we had 9 students graduate with both their high school diploma and one or more Associate Degrees, and in July we had 10 students complete one or more Associate Degrees, for a total of 19 students. From those 19 students, 8 earn their Associate Degree with Distinction (GPA 3.30-3.69) and 3 with Great Distinction (GPA 3.70-4.00). Our biggest successes are our students’ successes.
Adelfa Lorenzano, Reedley College:
Reedley Middle College High School is establishing an FFA Chapter, and Youth Leadership/Friday Night Live Chapter on campus. We just opened our doors on August 27, and look forward to establishing more organizations that support their educational efforts.

Susan Estes, College of San Mateo:
College of San Mateo’s Middle College students were selected as CSM Campus Ambassadors by the Half the Sky Movement. A group of students, inspired by their summer reading of Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn’s book *Half the Sky*, applied on behalf of the program... Through donations, a drawing, and the sale of baked goods, the students raised $1,591.60 for Afghan Friends Network, a non-profit organization that works to provide education for girls in rural Afghanistan.

Sharon Neumann, Grossmont College:
... our internship program. It is especially valuable for our students and our upcoming WASC visit in March.

Sherry Balian, San Joaquin Delta College:
Seventy-two percent of all college courses completed by MCHS @ SJDC students will result in a letter grade of A or B; this has held steady for the past 7 years. MCHS @ SJDC students outperform the general student population at SJDC. Also, MCHS @ SJDC had an API of 921 for 2012 which is the highest API for a high school in the San Joaquin County; being the highest performing high school in the county has held steady for 5 years.

Challenges:
How do we get other schools and staff to respect our program?
Cost of college textbooks: any suggestions from other sites as to how they handle this issue?