

SAC Notes
Nov 12, 2008

Present in Taipei: Dan Robinson, Tim Heading, Gabe Choi, Uwe Maurer, Robert Turner, Matt Strange, Michele Law, Tim McGill

- 1) Practicing collaborative discussion: What techniques could we use to gather data from brief, informal observations (i.e. “walk-throughs”) and give feedback to staff?
- 2) Task Forces:
 - a) Chinese Task Force completed their meetings. A few course benchmarks are still being written. The Chinese Curriculum Guide will be ready for review by SAC in January.
 - b) Science Task Force accepted the Delaware Christian School framework on creation. Matt is seeking permission from this school to use a slightly modified version of their document. The team continues to write grade level benchmarks that reflect a biblical world view. All levels are finalizing their recommendations for resources that will support the teaching of the new benchmarks.
 - c) A Bible survey will go out to the alumni, seniors, teachers and parents seeking input about the Bible courses. This data will inform next year’s Bible Task Force.
 - d) Technology Task Force has agreed to use National Educational Technology Standards (NETS). It is also developing a teacher survey to gather data on how technology is and could be integrated.
 - e) PE and Guidance Task Forces are finalizing their benchmarks and will begin putting the curriculum guides together for review by SAC.
- 3) Library Philosophy: Gabi Lautenbach, Ginann Franklin, Cris Laytham, Tim Heading and Matt Strange will develop a program that supports the new and/or renovated library media centers on each campus. They will review and revise the philosophy, mission, and vision for the library media center.
- 4) Moodle: Technology professional development training will continue to build capacity for Moodle to be the “academic hub” during a Pandemic. With common System learning objectives and materials, the November 21st professional development half day will focus on basic and advanced Moodle skills. The training will also be differentiated to better meet the needs of all the faculty and staff. Larry will research Pearson on-line link for grades.
- 5) School Improvement Plan: 8th grade VFOL school culture data was analyzed. 2008/9 Goals and Strategies were finalized. (see attached)
- 6) ASP Reports: The first draft (Profile, Progress Report, ACSI/WASC Standards, School-wide Action Plan) will be reviewed by SAC on December 11 in Taipei. Principals will support Candy Homer in gathering evidence related to the standards.
- 7) April 13, 2009 PD Day: The location has been changed from Kaohsiung to Taichung because Taichung EMS teachers will be in the middle of moving into the new buildings.
- 8) 2009/10 Calendar: Approved with minor revisions. <http://www.mca.org.tw/calendars.html>
 - a) Nov 20, 2009 PD half day was changed to Nov 25.
 - b) Parent conferences will be March 26, 2010.
 - c) The last day of 3rd quarter was changed from March 26 to March 19, 2010 in order to prepare report cards before Easter Break.

9) 2009/10 Budget Goals: (Excerpts)

- a) Projected enrollment decline 2.8%
- b) Taiwan income tax for K-8 expat and national staff
- c) Freeze salary & benefits
- d) Staff retreat for all campuses
- e) Consider initiating a dorm capital fee
- f) Consider initiating a one time entrance fee
- g) Incentive system for referrals of new MAK student applicants
- h) Convert Taichung library into Academic Commons
- i) Create Chinese classrooms in Taichung and Kaohsiung

10) Procedure Review:

- a) 160 PD Funds: Chinese language study benefits extended to children
- b) 281 Intervention Team: SAC supports the clarifications Matt is developing
- c) 513 Employment Qualifications: Certification requirements were aligned with policy 3110
- d) 618 Children Education Benefit: University benefits limited to 5 years
- e) 760 Housing Benefits: Moving allowances for school initiated moves were increased. Housing size criteria were clarified.