



AVECHS

Coffee with the Principal

November 29, 2021



Meeting called by: Principal De La Garza

Location: AVECHS P20

Meeting Start Time: 10 AM

Meeting End Time: 10:30 AM

Minutes Recorded by: Melanie Beegle

Attendees: AVECHS: Principal Liliana De La Garza, Academic Guidance counselor Katherine Angel & Secretary Melanie Beegle
GISD: Governance Council Secretary Jennifer Viramontes
Parents: Dora Macias, Carolina Torres & Rachel Urbina

Previous Action Items

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DEADLINE
N/A		

Minutes

Agenda item: PSAT & SAT Testing

Presenter: Counselor K. Angel

Discussion:

- NMPED has decided that passing the SAT is a graduation requirement.
- Students can log into **CollegeBoard.org** to see their PSAT & SAT scores; Counselor Angel has created student accounts for all AVECHS students.
 - Test waivers: CollegeBoard provides waivers for all Title I schools (all GISD schools) to test free of charge if students do not want to wait and would like to test somewhere else.
- **Tests**
 - consist of Math & Reading/Language portions for a combined score.
 - Score Ranges:
 - PSAT 320-1520; PSAT Index scores 48-228 – used for the National Merritt Scholarship
 - SAT 400-1600; NMSU requires a minimum of 1060 or 530 on each test
- **Timeline:**
 - PSAT: Freshman and sophomores will take the PSAT in October Juniors.
 - PSAT/NMSQT in April
 - SAT – seniors in October. This year GISD did not have the Seniors take the SAT again.
- **Information and Practice Tests:**
 - Counselor Angel recommends **Princeton Review website** for both [PSAT](#) and [SAT](#) information; website pages are hyperlinked. This website can provide test study and practice tests for a monetary fee.
 - [Khan Academy.org](#) is an online program provided free of charge for GISD students; student accounts have already been created.
 - 9th grade students - Counselor Angel recommends that students study the reading/vocabulary first; she feels that that is where our students struggle most.
 - 10th grade students can download CollegeBoard test results into Khan Academy; program will provide guidance on only the incorrect test items.
 - KhanAcademy is linked to an average of 115-point increase from the PSAT/NMSQT to the SAT test.
- **Scholarships:**
 - Evaluated on High School Transcript, GPA & Test Scores
 - Juniors: PSAT/NMSQT - students can receive National Merritt Scholarship, National Hispanic Scholarship.
 - On SAT tests, students can choose to bubble in the option to choose specific colleges to automatically receive their scores free of charge. Students have the option of waiting to see their scores and then will need to send them to the colleges on their own.
- ACT or SAT

- NM predominately looks at ACT; Texas predominately looked at SAT. Both are accepted and Counselor Angel recommends for students to take both to see which they test better on.

Agenda item: 8th Grade Student Recruitment

Presenter: Principal De La Garza

- Student Presentations
 - 📅 November 15, 2021 at Santa Teresa Middle School
 - 📅 November 30, 2021 at Gadsden Middle School
 - 📅 December 1, 2021 at Chaparral Middle School
- Parent Virtual Presentations – [Google Meet Link](#)
 - 📅 December 2, 2021
 - 📅 December 7, 2021
 - Virtual presentations are available for all Middle School parents.
 - Parents are encouraged to spread the word and have interested parents attend the parent virtual presentations.

Discussion:

- AVECHS can only accept 66 incoming students; this limit is set by DACC.
- Enrollment is currently open and accepting applications until December 17, 2022.
- Application process is all online on the AVECHS website – Applications – [2022-2023 AVECHS Enrollment Application](#); hyperlinked here.

Additional Agenda item:	DACC classes and grades
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Presenter: Principal De La Garza

Discussion:

- High School courses
 - AVECHS has access to grades through PowerSchool.
 - Parents have access to grades through Parent Portal.
- DACC
 - Only the DACC students have access to their grades; AVECHS & parents do not have access.
- Principal De La Garza encourages parents to ask students to login to their CANVAS so that they can review their students' grades weekly. Some grades will not change due to instructors varying input of grades (ie, beginning, middle and end of semester or weekly or monthly...)
- Withdrawing from a course due to a low grade: If student's current grade is a low F (lower than a 59) they can withdraw from the class within the set deadline.
 - The student will have to take the course again during the summer or following semester.
 - Withdrawing will not affect the student's GPA at the High School or College level; it will affect their Financial Aid.
 - This is an option but not encouraged as AVECHS pushes students to excel in their college courses. Lowering the student's GPA may make them ineligible to continue taking DACC courses due to the 2.0+ GPA requirement.
 - If a student does not pass a DACC course it is transcribed on both the DACC and AVECHS transcripts. If the student retakes the course and passes, that courses previous failing grade is taken off the DACC transcript but remains on the AVECHS transcript.
- AVECHS provides progress reports every 2 weeks. AVECHS meets with the individual students and requests their DACC grades so that they are printed on the AVECHS progress reports.

OPEN FOR DISCUSSION

Failing Students

PARENT INPUT/QUESTIONS:

Q: If a student is not passing their DACC courses do they kicked out of AVECHS or do they continue going?

A: Students can continue with AVECHS and will earn both their High School credits as well as college credit for passed/completed courses.

Our goal is for students to receive their Associates and provide interventions so that they do not fail their DACC courses. DACC instructors & advisors work closely with AVECHS to send alerts on failing students.

AVECHS works to make sure that students stay on target and have at least a 2.0+ GPA so that they can continue their DACC courses.

Next Scheduled Meeting

TBD