

ASCUS Minutes

April 29, 2011-Alhambra School District
4510 N. 37th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85019

Welcome and Housekeeping

Review results of survey completed at last ASCUS meeting.

Additional input/questions

*ADE calls show up as caller unknown.

*Discussion of storing permanent records electronically. Issues emerging with record retention rules regarding sign in/sign out required procedures. Records retention division will be contacted for clarification and results will be posted on ASCUS website.

SAIS Update/SAIS Question-Terry Mendez, ADE

Question #1

All legislated changes scheduled to go into effect 2011-12 will be implemented 2012-13.

Question #3

Work on consolidation is ongoing but no target date at present.

Question #6

ADE was applauded by attendees for its improvement in customer service. Terry acknowledged that the wait for assignment of SAIS IDs is lengthy as this is a manual process. She will research the issue of students awaiting a SAIS ID assignment during the period open for AYP data corrections.

Question #9

There is a part-time technical writing on staff at ADE who is addressing the SAIS documents.

Question #11

ASCUS members were encouraged to contact Superintendent Huppenthal to support ADE's request for additional training resources-possibility reinstating the STAR team.

Question #13

Request for student level detail on year-end report-Terry will research.

Additional Discussion

More positive comments were made about recent changes in ADE processes and communication. Integrity is still an issue and will be until the database is running on new hardware and/or the SAIS rewrite is completed.

Graduation/Dropout Rates Robert Franciosi, ADE

Research and Evaluation

Withdrawal changes http://ascusonline.org/uploads/file/11_04_29%20ASCUS.pptx

Discussion centered on parent statement of student transfer no longer being sufficient documentation for a student to exit with a code of S1. An official request for records or documented contact between administrators is required. Without such documentation a student should be coded as "status unknown". Presentation indicated that this has been in effect since 2008. Attendees indicated that this was not the practice as it conflicts with the audit requirement of 10 days of unexcused absence to be documented with the use of the "status unknown" exit code. ADE R&E division will research this issue and report back to ASCUS.

Request was made that R&E pull students' ethnicity at time of testing as the data sometimes changes with subsequent enrollments. This change may be considered in the future.

ASCUS Website/Housekeeping ASCUS Board

ASCUS website demonstration. Request was made to add link to USFR. Discussion of possible acronym change from ASCUS to ASKUs. Volunteers are still needed to moderate forums.

Adjourned to breakout sessions