

PEERS Meeting January 8, 2010

Opening – Michelle Kitto

1. Next meeting - Feb 5 Topic is summer opportunities for students
2. Sign up for Scholar's breakfast
3. Sign up for Crab Dinner
4. Teen Challenge - Jacob Shimkus
 - Service project to train teens on how to perform service projects
 - Challenge to get involved in the community
5. Senior Fashion Show - Renee Kerr
 - Please come on Feb. 5
6. LHS - Katie Barman
 - Auction-A-Go-Go - Feb 20
 - Keeping it simple, need auction items

Counselors Update - Paula Emery

1. Senior parents should look at senior web page - what they need to do to graduate
2. College process - make sure school actually needs mid-year before you send out
3. Due date for mid-years - not available until Feb 8 - don't worry if college needs sooner
4. Practice SAT - 1/9/10 at LHS
5. ACT - Feb at LHS
6. Sophomore Conferences week Feb 8
7. Free Naviance tests - reconsider sophomores taking it, once taken it can't be repeated
8. AP testing in May; registration in March on-line

Principals report - Mike Lehman

1. Basketball Civil War Game - Academic all-stars recognized
2. Art Exhibit - show at downtown gallery next week; many award winners
3. MORP - on Sat.; off site; high security; remind kids to make safe choices
 - At block 90 Ballroom
4. Finals Jan 26 - 28
5. Thanks to Renee and others for great staff dinner on Dec 18

College Student Panel – Former LHS students that participated

1. Allison Brown (**AB**) - Soph at University of Southern California
2. Kelly Jenkins (**KJ**) - Soph at Loyal Marymount University
3. Jenna Conan (**JC**) - Fresh at Texas Christian University
4. Brian Ernst (**BE**) - Fresh at University of Puget Sound

The following questions were asked of each student and their reply is designated by their initials.

A. Tell us about your college search

BE - started in Jr. Year; wanted something like LRH; close with staff, west coast; small, suggests visit while school in session, visit overnight

JC - something different than OR, med-size school, applied to 10 schools, better weather, offered major, get involved right away

KJ – applied to LMU & Santa Clara for dance; switched to teaching, eat at cafeteria to meet people

AB - started looking in soph yr, family dropped by schools, decided against small, tours helped, atmosphere was important, see school on weekend also, read book on peer impressions. Try to meet upper classman

B. How did your parents help in your college search?

AB - Mom reviewed emails, deleted, make sure don't miss deadlines, more life responsibilities as a soph, still rely on parents

JC - Excel spreadsheet, Mom looked at college boards, reviewed applications

KJ - Mom organized folders per school

BE – Mom helped with proof reading, deadline tracking

C. Reflect on your college preparedness

AB – keep up with day to day workload, eating, laundry, stock up on general supplies, lacked cooking skills. LHS great with academics

KJ – Check on how many students went home on weekends

JC - LHS prepared well, surprised not more homesick

BE - LHS great, good with mixing social and academic, personal day to day preparedness makes him appreciate parents

D. Were there roommate compatibility issues?

JC - roommate match worked fine, many don't, switch at semester break if needed, and mixed sex wings are uncomfortable

BE - roommate questionnaire was short but still worked, many friends in house but not outside of it yet. In small house where kids study together

KJ - got along with Fresh roommate but chose another for soph and don't get along as well; used Facebook to check out roommate

AB – Girls/boys separated by floor (60) worked well, by Honors College and took classes together. Roommate was opposite; didn't get along, got irritated, needed to confront issues

E. Which of your LHS classes helped?

JC - AP US most helpful

AB - AP US most helpful, know how to write papers

BE - being involved in activities and learning how to balance

F. What was your work experience outside school?

JC - valuable, motivates to get work done, makes you focus, and helped to get job on campus

AB - worked in lab freshman year, had difficulty balancing job, school, clubs, probably should have done soph year

KJ - valuable because teaching is major, good for resume, letters of recommendation, related to major is premier

BE - money, experience, resume builder

G. Deciding on Major

KJ - knew subconsciously that teaching was what she wanted to do

AB - started biochemistry, after college chemistry class she changed, easy to drop major to make a minor, don't need declare major until end of soph year

JC - online career searches are helpful but always knew, go in with interest and work from there

BE - undecided; feels undecided will not hamper future, taking mostly freshman classes, find class that interests him (ex. politics) and takes next level class if he likes it. Never looked at college for classes so looked for college with many options

H. How are you treated at home; Describe your school social decisions (drinking/drugs)

AB - tell kids not to drink first month, will be left alone, defined by this, big in Frat/Sorority scene, if you say no at first and then the kids has control

JC - kids will drink, not much parent can do, back home - parent should establish boundaries when they get home for breaks

KJ - back home - parents be open about guidelines

BE - has strong views against drinking, not him, met great people who drank moderately and were still good people, after initial not drinking, then people leave them alone. Drugs not big

AB - campus owned building are dry, but doesn't stop people, have friends go with you to parties with like ideas, have cup with non alcohol, be able to control your own drinking.

JC - don't mix drinks, be with friends that look out for you (girl/guy situations); drugs are not that big a deals

AB - take advantage of campus security, walk home is most dangerous, alleys, alone; drug use is more closeted; seems you would need to pursue drug activity, people who drink intelligently are way more respected, and overdrinking is not cool. Parents should have honest discussion with child about drinking results - Girls lowered inhibitions, Boys more aggressive

I. What about college deferrals?

BE - has friend that went to Argentina, no need to be organized but official program does make it seem legit; friend applied first and once accepted, then ask to defer

J. What contact do you have with your parents?

JC - should set up time for parent to call

AB - enjoys calls all the time, go to parent weekend when kids are ready for interaction. Kids want to show off their other life

KJ - text, email, in constant contact, loved visits, shows off life in college

BE - likes to call Mom every day. Unexpected visit not OK. Parent visit something he got to look forward to. Likes having 2 lives.