



Sage Ridge School  
College Preparatory Excellence

**Sage Ridge School  
US PAC Minutes  
April 21, 2011**

Members present: Ruth Adams (9<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Cindy Garduno (10<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Anne Hayes, Ann Barnes (11<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Darla Gary-Sage, Mark Lowenster (12<sup>th</sup> Grade)  
Jamie Otis, John Cook (Faculty)  
Dr. DiBitonto (Guest)

Agenda Items	Discussion Points	Action Items
1. Debate	While the administration is actively searching for a debate/speech coach, the assistant debate coach will manage the schedule until the end of the year. It is planned for the fall 2011-12 school year to introduce speech in the 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> grades.	Jamie Otis to report on hiring progress
2. College Counseling	The school has identified counseling concerns and will be generating a handbook to include outlines and information tailored for each grade. Emphasis will be placed on coaching children towards specific academic goals. For the school year 2011-12, student lead conferences will provide a mentoring opportunity between the teacher and student.	
3. School Culture	In the past month, there has been positive growth in the relationship between the upper school students and Mr. Otis. By providing greater presence and dialog, there has been a decrease in anxiety. Prefecture now meets every Friday and starting the school year 2011-12, two representatives from every grade will be part of a Student Advisory Council. Much like the PAC, this group of students will meet with the Headmaster and both division heads to discuss issues and concerns, act as a sounding board for new initiatives, and provide communications.	Update at next PAC meeting with progress
4. Senior Parent Experience	Below are a few of the comments from Mark Lowenster and Darla Garey-Sage as parents of outgoing seniors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sage Ridge provides the right formula to get the best out of our kids. By providing quality teachers and curriculum, the 2011 senior class has been able to take advantage of college scholarships and grants that balance out the cost of their upper school education.</li> <li>• It is important Sage Ridge keep in contact with alumni students and parents</li> <li>• Greater emphasis needs to be placed on marketing Sage Ridge to colleges</li> <li>• The school needs to reaffirm their commitment to develop well rounded, independent, and self motivate students.</li> </ul>	
5. 10 <sup>th</sup> Grade	Teachers need to be mindful that sophomore students will be sitting for AP exams when scheduling tests and quizzes. SAT prep classes will be offered in the fall and spring starting next school year.	
6. 12 <sup>th</sup> Grade	The Sage Ridge community of students and parents want to congratulate the senior class on their acceptances into top colleges. The impressive list is a reflection of the hard work and dedication the senior have been working towards all year long. Good Luck!	
7. Administration Report	<p>The community Outreach project “Race to Nowhere”, presented on March 26, 2011, was a great success. The audience recognized the quality of discussion provided by the panel after the film. A video of the conversation will be available in the Fall.</p> <p>The school has hired two new teachers for the upper school to start fall 2011, Dr. Willow Wedemeyer and Lauren Fields. Additional information will be provided in the April Headmaster’s letter.</p> <p>A Thank You get together for the PAC members and the upper school faculty is planned for May 13<sup>th</sup>.</p>	