

# Kern County Coordinators' Workshop I

## *Breakout Session Summaries*

### Parent Involvement

*Jill Pickett*

*Actis JHS*

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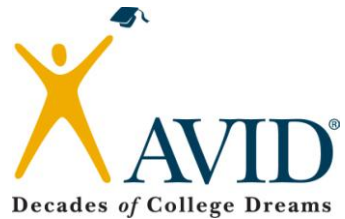
*Marciano Flores East Bakersfield HS*

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Jill Pickett mentioned that during the 2008-2009 school year, AVID parents were invited to everything. Parents were involved in the school's *Adopt-a-Child* activities, field trips, and gift wrapping party. During the 2009-2010 school year, most AVID documents included a space for parents' signatures. At the school's Family Night this coming May, teachers will give awards to family members who have been the most active in all activities. Parents have also been included much more on the AVID Site Team; this has been accomplished in a big way due to a letter sent home to parents asking them if they would like to volunteer for activities/duties. The AVID Site Team created a parent e-mail distribution list in order to keep them informed every step of the way.

Marciano Flores added that the *EBHS Booster Club* is connected with the *Academic Athletic Association (AAA)*, and AVID has been a component of that group. A splinter group, *Parent Involvement Group (PIG)*, has been created complete with member T-shirts. The *EBHS College Night* featured juniors and seniors making presentations to parents on colleges and universities that they researched by manning booths with presentation boards for all to see. Freshmen and sophomores organized transfer workshops and financial aid workshops, and the parents helped organize dinner donations. Marciano mentioned that finding what is already in place and making a connection are key components of communicating with parents . . . **COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE! COMMUNICATE!** Another suggestion Marciano had was to visit a slightly "out-of-the-box" school for a *Parent-Only Field Trip*. His contact at UCSB for this trip is Gina Gonzalez ([ginagonzalez@ucsb.edu](mailto:ginagonzalez@ucsb.edu)).

***For more information, feel free to contact Jill and Maricano via e-mail!***



## **Site Team Involvement**

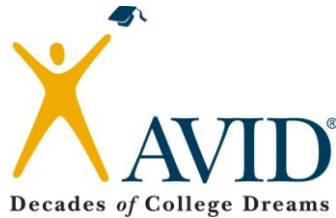
*Pip Goings*

*Thompson JHS*

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Pip began her discussion with the suggestion to get prospective team members involved by showing them a list of specific duties and having them decide which duties they could perform in order to become active members of the team. She mentioned that inviting them to attend a Summer Institute is always a nice incentive. All attendees of a summer session must then sign a *Letter of Commitment* to present to the faculty on what they learned at the institute in exchange for paying for them to attend. Also important to get and keep Site Team Members is the agenda at the meetings; all items must be timed to the minute so that discussions do not drag on too long. The key in identifying and adding new members is to personally ask them if they are interested and “make deals” with them as to their service. She further mentioned that the *AVID Afternoon* is an activity in which students and parents are invited to gather and discuss what is happening in the AVID classes. Students receive incentives/treats for attending. On *Career Day* the 8-graders take the 7-graders on tours, make college boards to present to parents, and take part in other ways. The students and parents write “Hopes and Dreams” letters to each other as well. To further build capacity on the Site Team, the administrators are put in charge of Essential 10 for evidence collection, and each Site Team Member is also given an Essential or an Indicator to monitor. She mentioned to include tutors at Site Team Meetings, and generally keep everybody involved. To keep students involved on the team, the 8<sup>th</sup>-grade AVID graduation is run by students with the help of parents as well. A good way to keep parents involved with the Site Team is to invite them on field trips to colleges and to other activities the AVID team undertakes.

***For more information, feel free to contact Pip Goings via e-mail!***



## **Grant Writing**

<i>Joanna Campbell</i>	<i>Cesar Chavez HS</i>	<a href="mailto:jcampbell@djuhsd.org">jcampbell@djuhsd.org</a>
<i>Rebecca Farley</i>	<i>Foothill HS</i>	<a href="mailto:rebecca_farley@khsd.k12.ca.us">rebecca_farley@khsd.k12.ca.us</a>
<i>Peggy Sue Yarber</i>	<i>East Bakersfield HS</i>	<a href="mailto:peggy_yarber@khsd.k12.ca.us">peggy_yarber@khsd.k12.ca.us</a>

Joanna began the session by mentioning that most grants offered to schools/classes are fairly easy to complete and send. They usually consist of the informational form and a one-page narrative explaining the reason for the grant. She added that any grant that asks for an application fee should be discounted immediately. Including an educational standard into the verbiage of the grant narrative is a must, and including how the students will benefit from the grant is equally important. Sending a note of thanks after receiving a grant is also quite important, and sending photos or video presentations showing your group using the funds is a good idea.

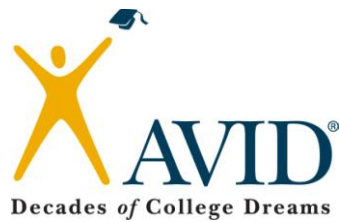
Rebecca Farley mentioned that using QEIA funds, AP & IB funds, and other available funds can add to any grant funds a school procures. She also mentioned that some schools have Title I funds to access. Rebecca added that local companies will work with schools/clubs when it comes to fundraising by selling all sorts of items at bulk rates.

Peggy did a presentation on how to access QEIA at schools that have them. Her *PowerPoint* presentation was very informative and could be used as a tool for teachers and administrators alike.

Below is a list of possible grant/funding sources the three ladies mentioned.

- donorschoose.org
- chipin.com
- usafunds.org
- studentpaths.com
- Scholastic
- One Classroom at a Time
- Walmart
- ucop.edu

***[For more information, feel free to contact Joanna, Rebecca & Peggy via e-mail!](#)***



Steve Walsh      CSUB

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As Director of the Academic Advancement Center at CSUB, Steve deals quite a bit with students who have entered the university directly from high school. One of his main messages is for all students to focus on finishing all 8 semesters of high school as thoroughly as possible. A student is not officially accepted into a college/university until the transcript showing successful completion of all four years of high school is on file at the college/university. He discussed the importance of doing well on the EPT and ELM exams for the CSU system and checking into preparation guides and other help on similar test preparation while still in high school. He reminded attendees of the March deadline for the filing of the FAFSA and CalGrant forms. He urged students to take campus visits in order to make informed decisions about the school they will ultimately attend. His advice for undocumented students is to find and apply for any and all financial aid that they can and contact the school where they plan to attend for further financial assistance in the form of scholarships/grants/loans.

***For more information, feel free to contact Steve via e-mail!***