

## **BOD PSEO Waiver Process Task Force**

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 12, 2018

Present: Cheri Howe, Karlotta Wolfgram, Tom Johnston, Emily Graveen, Joell Pundsack, Markell Anderson, Jenna Babb, Patty Minehart, Lisa Anderson, Donna and Troy Nightingale

### **I. Background Information** (included in the handout)

Goal: To bring a waiver process to the Board for those students who did not experience all of the new Spanish curriculum so that they can find the best fit if they decide to go PSEO.

### **II. Research:** We looked over the data for past few years and found that many students when going PSEO as Juniors, took beginning Spanish 1 Semester 2 class, or an Intermediate class, which may be lower than the new requirements of an Intermediate, 2nd semester class.

Century Process for placement: if a student takes the class Century thinks they should take, they are allowed to. However, if they want to take something higher than what Century believes they should take, then their registration is flagged and they have an interview with a professor or the chair of the department. Additionally, one of the problems for MSA students is that we start High School Spanish in 8th grade, but that does not show up on the High School Transcript, so colleges often think our students have less Spanish than they do. Then they do not fit Century's standards for placement into the intermediate class, that our new curriculum supports.

### **III. Recommendations:**

Recommendation One: New and long-time MSA students who are in 11th and 12th grade can be waived from the new PSEO requirements based on where their PSEO institution places them. We recommend that student always try to take the next sequence of class to further their learning if possible. This waiver will be in place for those students that graduate in 2019 or 2020. Students are required to submit a copy of their schedule to the Academic Counselor each semester. This should be done as soon as possible, but no later than a week before the beginning of their institution's semester(s). If there are any changes to their schedules, those need to be brought to the Academic counselor as well.

Concern One: There were students who decided not to apply to go PSEO because they were worried about their Spanish Placement. So they might be upset about now learning that they could be grandfathered in. If students are going part-time PSEO, they can still change to full-time and be grandfathered in. However, the deadline to apply for PSEO overall, has already passed and unfortunately, some students will not be able to benefit from this process. We understand this concern and feel bad, but still have to help those students we can at this point.

Concern Two: If students are placed into a class based on an interview, there is a concern that they may be placed lower because most students perform better at writing than they do in an oral interview.

Recommendation Two: There are current 12th grade transfer students who were told that they needed 3 years of Spanish in January of this past year or under the old system. Therefore they did not take Spanish last year as Juniors and are planning to take it this year as seniors but therefore would not meet the new graduation standards. Therefore, they are grandfathered in to graduate with only 3 years of Spanish. The Academic Counselor believes there are 9 of these students.

Recommendation regarding current 9th and 10th graders: There is no recommendation for these students to be grandfathered in for two reasons. First of all, with the exception of one section of 7th graders two years ago, all of the students have used the new curriculum and have had only the new teachers. Additionally, Jenna Babb said that 9th graders from last year (current 10th graders) are so much more prepared because of the advanced curriculum, then the students she had the years before (who did not have all of the advanced curriculum). She has no doubt they would be successful.

Further Action: If these recommendations are adopted at the BOD Meeting on Monday, they should be put in the Student handbook.