

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE EDUCATION ACTIVITY

KADENA HIGH SCHOOL

UNIT 5166

APO AP 96368-5166

“ACCELERATING ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL STUDENTS”

Present

Ms. Fisk (Parent), Ms. Hamilton (Teacher), Ms. Grondin (Teacher), Ms. Velasquez (Teacher), Ms. Shanks (Parent), Ms. McNeace (SLO), Ms. Lopez (Parent), Ms. McKinney (Teacher), Ms. Mendoza (Parent), Mr. Tucker (Athletic Director), Dr. Bleecker (Principal), Dr. Cherry (Assistant Principal)

KDHS SAC Meeting Agenda

March 04, 2026 / 1600 / KDHS Information Center

Welcome/Meeting Norms

Presentation of last meeting's minutes

Ms. Valasquez motioned to approve the minutes. Ms. Grondin seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

Reports

- Principal:
 - Update on enrollment numbers and academic performance. Holding steady around 770.
 - Feedback on recent school events:
 - Named AP platinum for the 3rd year in a row.
 - Career Practicum Program is doing well. PME Center has more students than ever. DoWEA and 18th Wing both love the direction the program is going. PME is looking to expand what the students learn in their program. Over 50 students are looking at taking career practicum next year.
 - Adding 4 AP courses next year making 26 total classes.
 - CTE program next year will offer 5 out of 6 classes in person. Goal is to offer all 6 in person within the next couple of years.
 - AVID program booming and strong.
 - Japanese, Spanish, and French will all be offered again next year. Seal of bilinguality will be offered next year for students who have mastered 2 languages when they graduate.

-2nd annual rising panthers was successful as determined by school links data shifting after the event.

-PSAT for 9th and 10th graders was yesterday. Students get to see their scores instantly.

-Grade level Prime is going well. Possibly shift from enrichment to remedial focus next year.

-Winter sports season went well. We earned 5 Far East Championship banners.

- Staffing and extracurricular vacancies

-Adding positions for next year

-District Career Day will be held here in April

-Month of the Military Child event will happen

-Graduation approved for off base

- SLO/Installation Commander:
 - Airforce doing exercises next week.
 - Army is experiencing deployments. SLO's are encouraging parents to communicate with the schools if a deployment is occurring in a family.

Old Business

- 1. Discussion of community partnerships for career readiness and student leadership development. The school needs 4-5 volunteers for Decision Day. Mr. Jackson will put out a request for military volunteers. Month of the Military Child committee is still planning, and they will reach out later about volunteers. The event is planned for Thursday, April 23rd. For graduation, Mr. Heathman is going to reach out to the SLO's for volunteers for parking, setup, and cleanup.
- 2. Status update on Graduation for Class of 2026 – Ginowan Convention Center procured. Graduation can occur off base even if we are in FPCOMCharlie.
- 3. Counselors' communication updates- Dr. Bleeker meets with the counselors weekly. Counselors are sending more emails. With FPCOMBravo we have to be careful about posting on social media. We can't post about upcoming events.
- 4. SAC goal of improving school communication:
 - Survey was sent out and admin received feedback that parents want more communication and more frequent newsletter. Less than 20 parents responded. Ms. Fisk expressed concerns that the survey had many questions about teacher communication, despite the SAC goal focusing on school communication. Dr. Bleeker explained that he was trying to meet two goals with the one survey but is willing to send out a new survey if the SAC feels it is necessary. He also stated that he felt he had sufficient feedback about the school communication from the previous survey, therefore, the SAC determined another survey was not necessary.
 - Ms. McKinney suggested reformatting the school newsletter to make it more parent friendly. She suggested a one pager that goes out on Fridays looking at the week ahead with links to additional information. This way parents can quickly skim through and

click on the links that interest them. This is more in line with what other schools in the district send out. Dr. Bleecker will provide the SAC suggestions to Ms. Daniel.

-Ms. Lopez added she did not see the survey the first time because it didn't stand out amongst all the items in the newsletter. Affirming that a one pager with links would be easier for parents.

-Dr. Cherry stated feedback from parents who come face-to-face is they are getting too much. They do not want all grade level information; they just want for their grade level.

-Mr. Jackson suggested an inquiry as to what questions parents want answered.

-Mrs. Fisk stated regarding communication, policies aren't clear and seem to change without notification. She provided examples to administration for clarification purposes.

-Ms. Hamilton asked if the newsletter can be linked on FB.

- 5. Overlapping SAC meeting alternatives-Dr. Bleecker suggested coordinating with the principals at the Community of Practice Meeting. Dr. Cherry said that it won't work because schedules are submitted in May for the following year. Mr. Jackson suggested each level of school pick a different day of the week. Dr. Bleecker said he would talk to the other administrators and try to come up with a plan for next year.

New Business

- 1. Coordinating with Civil Engineer Squadron for lighting apparatus to extend track usage beyond daylight hours. Mr. Jackson is working to make this happen and is hopeful it will be a go so the soccer team can have extended practice hours.
- 2. Meeting minutes posting- Mr. Jackson proposes sending the draft minutes to the voting SAC members within a week of the meeting so he can use the minutes for the next agenda. The SAC agreed to this new procedure. Mrs. Fisk also requested a digital copy of the final agenda to assist with taking the minutes. Dr. Bleecker will send the final agenda to Mrs. Fisk at least 24 hours prior to the next meeting so she can prepare the minutes.
- 3. Planning for SAC elections. All SAC members will serve again next year so elections are not necessary.

Open Forum

- 1. Mrs. Shanks stated that in stateside schools and in Italy, military children are authorized to wear a purple cord at graduation. Mrs. Shanks would like permission for the students to wear the cords. She shared many examples of how the kids have earned the cords. The cords are part of a program called Operation Purple Cord and there are specific guidelines for who can wear the cord (children of active duty, retirees, and reserves). Mrs. Shanks is not asking for funding to purchase the cords, just permission for the students to wear them. She also offered to purchase a box for the school.
-Dr. Bleecker stated that current policy only allows for academic cords and stoles. The SAC would have to agree to write an exception to policy to try and get the cords approved.

-Mrs. Fisk motioned to draft a policy. Ms. Valasquez seconded the motion. Dr. Jackson brought up the concern that 39% of the population are civilian kids and might feel left out. A discussion ensued. There was a unanimous vote to move forward with the exception to policy.

Closing

- Next meeting date and time. April 29th at 1600 in the KDHS library.
- Mrs. Fisk motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Grondin seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1714.