

COMPASS STEERING COMMITTEE NOTES

June 10, 2004
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
District Office – Board Room

I. English Presentation by John Mitchell (Dale Rohrbach will be invited)

Kim Boose noted that Highland Lakes and Orchard Ridge are using a different form for placement into English than the other campuses. Kelli Van Buren will address this issue at Highland Lakes and Mary Jo Schuster at Orchard Ridge. A copy of this form can be obtained by contacting Mary Sevegney at the Royal Oak Campus.

Doug Riddering suggested that IT look at the scores on COMPASS and inquired about the use of weighted score results. It is possible to weight scores within Colleague, but not on COMPASS. He suggested using Teresa Shadley, Datatel consultant for this project.

Kim Boose presented a letter from John Mitchell regarding proposed changes to the COMPASS English cut-off scores. Mary Jo Schuster tested students in an Eng-1051 writing class and discovered that 22 students out of 44 scored below 20. She stated that there was no correlation between the test scores and the grades the students earned and underscored the necessity of offering programs for students who place below the minimum score in English. Mary Jo suggested bringing this concern to the Developmental Ed Committee.

Doug Riddering suggested that students be allowed to retest the 1st day of class. Currently, the English Department does not provide this option to their students like the ESL Department.

Mary Jo Schuster and Chuck Neumann recommend that students take the English Placement test and Math tests separate.

Carla Mathews will consult with the English Department and Nancy Showers from Institutional Research with regard to English placement. There may be a need for re-evaluation.

Wanda Pernel-Harris noted the student's attitude can make a difference on the assessment tests and that a tone should be set – it is strictly for placement purposes.

