**ACCESS Department Meeting Notes**

**June 1, 2022**

**SHOUT OUTS**

* Thank you to everyone who helped with the Autism Awareness Getting Crafty with ACCESS event. It was a big success, with over 80 students in attendance.
* Thank you to everyone who helped with the Summer Registration Drop-In event today.

**Malia’s District Updates**

* **Grad Fest**
  + Grad Fest is Saturday, May 21. Thank you to all the ACCESS faculty and staff who have volunteered for Grad Fest. Currently, we have 85 ACCESS students registered for the event.
* **Commencement**
  + June 10 at 5:30 PM Hilmer Lodge Stadium
  + Faculty are required to attend and classified staff are paid to attend
  + Thank you to the ACCESS staff who are working Commencement. We could use more volunteers.
  + When we get calls about accessibility for Commencement, please first refer students and guests to the [Commencement webpage](https://www.mtsac.edu/records/graduation/commencement-day.html), which contains a lot of information. If students and guests have questions after reviewing the webpage, please ask them to email their question to ACCESS and the Commencement team will get back to them.
  + Students and guests with ANY mobility challenges (do not need a disability placard) are directed to park in the Champion parking structure. Students and guests are asked to bring their own mobility devices (wheelchair, walker, etc.) and personal attendants (or friends/family to assist) as Mt SAC will not provide mobility devices or personal assistance.
* **Positions Updates**
  + Adjunct LD Specialist: We interviewed for the LD Specialist position and identified a successful candidate. AS is a current school psychologist with a great background in LD assessment and providing learning strategies and accommodations. She also is a former Mt SAC international student. She will start in the summer.
  + DHH Coordinator: We are hiring two DHH Coordinators. Final interviews are this week. We will be offering the positions to the successful candidates this week
  + DHH Noncredit Professor: Committee has been formed and has had their first meeting. Interviews will be this month.
  + DHH Director: The job has been posted and is open until June 1. The goal is to hold interviews in June.
* **DHH and Innivee Strategies**
  + Innivee Strategies is the deaf-owned company that the District contracted with to complete listening sessions with DHH faculty and staff, DHH students, and others who work with either DHH or deaf students (Sign Language program, community agencies). Innivee Strategies released their listening sessions report, and this has resulted in strong feelings, opinions,and perspectives within these groups. Our DHH team needs our support and recognition for the incredible DHH program that they have created and support, which includes our DHH Center, extracurricular activities, interpreting and captioning, cohort classes, and academic support. There is no question that we have an incredible DHH team. At the same time, the report provided recommendations for us to consider to better serve students and to become even more deaf-centered. As with all equity work, feedback can be messy, uncomfortable, welcomed, and challenging. As we engage in this equity work, we need to support each other and stay focused on our shared vision of providing the very best serves to our DHH students.
* **9B Building Improvement**
  + Carpet will be replaced this summer. Make sure to pack up items on your desk or bookshelves before you leave for summer vacation.
* **PIE**
  + The Planning Group met and discussed making changes to how we approach and complete our ACCESS PIE. The team decided to form an ACCESS PIE working group with one representative from each area: faculty, ATC, DHH, ATC, and Operations. This will allow us to streamline PIE and create a more cohesive and collaborative PIE document.
  + MF will send an email asking for one representative from each group.

**AREA UPDATES**

**Operations**

* Will begin hosting ACCESS Info Tables in front of the Mountie Café starting the week of May 2. Would like to have a table each Monday and Thursday from 11 am-1 pm. Need volunteers. Here are the dates: 5/9, 5/12. 5/23. 5/26, 6/6. 6/9. Students appreciate it when a counselor is at the table, along with a staff member.
* MJ is working to restart the ACCESS student club for next year. ACCESS students often face barriers to starting a club, which includes meeting the AS requirements for club officers.
* Puzzle Project student will begin as a student worker in ACCESS next week. If you have any projects that he could help with, please email.

**ATC**

* No updates

**Faculty**

* Hiring committee for DHH Noncredit professor.
* All faculty calendars have been submitted. There is still uncertainty on whether the District will allow counselors to work remotely this summer and fall.
* The Accommodation Guidance team revised both the in-person and online guidance documents. Updates included adding the ACCESS testing contact information.
* Puzzle Project will be hosting information session during the summer. Refer interested students and parents to the [Puzzle Project website](https://www.mtsac.edu/access/puzzle_project/puzzle_project.html).
* Please help promote COUNS 1 class this summer from July 5 - July 15.

**DHH**

* DHH Spring Banquet is May 24.