**Seahawks SOAR Advisory Committee Minutes**

**May 10, 2017**

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Jamie Clark, chair, at 12:30 pm in the Student Center Building, Room 145. Rules of parliamentary procedures were suspended.

1. **Members Present:**

Mark Knowles Dr. Laura Stafford

Jamie Clark Chandra Brooks

Christina Wilbur Grace Megnet\*

Diana Crutchfield Zeb Lowe\*

Dr. Barbara Huval Caitlin James\*

T. Kash Cox \* Laurie Marcantel \*

Felicia McAdams

**Guest(s):**

\*Denotes Absence

1. **Sub-committee Reports**
2. Jamie Clark gave a report. In the Garden of Beasts: Love, Terror, and An American Family in Hitler’s Berlin by Erik Larson was the book of Choice for Spring Semester 2017. The book discussed the true story of America’s first ambassador, William Dodd, to Hitler’s Germany. The book brought to light the rise of Hitler. The Faculty Book Club met on three occasions during the Spring Semester 2017. The club meetings were very informal, allowing for late arrival and departure as needed. Discussion questions were developed and given to members of the book club. These questions were addressed at each club meeting. Six individuals participated in the Faculty Book Club this semester.
3. Dr. Laura Stafford gave a report for Zeb Lowe regarding the Student Book Club. Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison was the book of choice for the Spring Semester of 2017. The following report summaries were given.
4. Early Birds

Sponsor: Dr. Laura Stafford

The Early Bird SOAR Student Book Club met in the Student Center Snack Bar at 7:15am on three Mondays: Feb. 13, Feb. 27, and Mar. 20th. We had between 5-7 members at each meeting. I could not find special food treats to connect to the book the Song of Solomon, but I did serve milk with the morning donuts in honor of the character “Milkman”. This book club helped complete the interactive QEP Board in the PAC covering the Concept Map strategy as well as post pictures of the meetings and their responses to group discussions. I do plan to have an early morning book club for the fall which will meet at 7am because I have 8 am classes every day of the week in the fall.

1. Facebook Student Book Club

Sponsor: Dr. Laura Stafford

Only 3 students participated on the campus Facebook page for the Spring of 2017. I think we are having a low turnout because it is only used to make up missed campus meetings and it is difficult to find the event if there is a lot of campus activity being uploaded into our Facebook site. I will talk with Gerry Dickert about getting the Event meetings in a more prominent location on the campus Facebook site.

Diana Crutchfield gave the suggestion of pinning it to the homepage.

1. Gates Go Getters

Sponsor: Caitlin James

This year’s book club for *Song of Solomon* was another successful one. We met on 3 different Wednesdays at 12:30 each time. I think this worked out well because the book was easily split into 3 different sections (with several chapters in each section). The first meeting was the largest, with ten attendees and myself. I asked them to answer a set of questions that Dr. Stafford and I had selected as good intro questions. I spoke briefly about the time period that the book was written, as well as telling them some background on the author. I asked them if they enjoyed the writing thus far. This genre of writing seemed new and different to all the members, as well as the major themes within the novel. The second meeting had a few less members, but still a good group of seven. I passed out Tee-shirts to those who had attended the first meeting. I mentioned to the new-comers (there were 2) that if they attended two meetings and responded to a question on our Facebook forum, that I would give them tee-shirts too. At the second meeting, I also asked the group to fill out notecards with answers to questions about the second part of the book. These questions including connecting with or trying to understand the characters’ perspectives. I also took pictures after the second meeting. Dr. Stafford printed out the pictures, framed them, and added them to the bulletin board. For the last meeting we held closing statements about the book, the genre of literature, and the author, and then the group took their survey monkey survey in the computer lab. I genuinely enjoyed this book club and group of students who attended. They’re thoughtful responses to the questions as well as their discussions amongst each other were incredibly interesting to read and observe. Each member took at least one turn per meeting to talk about how they were interpreting the book. I look forward to hosting this club again in the Fall (different book of course).

1. SSC Club

Sponsor: Chad Belyeu

It was reported that 7 students participated in the SSC Club Student Book Club. It was reported that the book club will continue to meet in the Fall Semester of 2017.

1. High School Hawks

Sponsor: Diane Johnson

The High School Hawks had 16 in attendance this semester. We will continue with East of Eden in the fall.

1. Hawks Nest

Sponsor: Laurie Marcantel

I only had one student who signed up for the book club and he never attended the meetings. I’d like to continue to host a book club in the fall and hope I have better participation.

1. Ruby Readers

Sponsor: Michelle Judice

Meeting #1: February 28

Attendance: 16 students met in Madison Monroe Room 111. All enthusiastically discussed the assigned chapters, 1-4, and eagerly contributed to the Song of Solomon vocabulary hunt. Students said they like the book so far and intended to continue reading. Gave attendees Seahawk SOAR wristbands. Meeting lasted an hour.

Meeting #2: March 21

Attendance: 15 students who were caught up with reading chapters 5-9 participated in the discussion and practice upcoming chapters test. Meeting lasted an hour. Distributed the Seahawk Book Club tee shirts.

Meeting #3: April 4

Attendance: 14 students again in the Madison Monroe, Room 111. Discussed remaining chapters 10-15. Students really liked the last group of chapters the best and willingly contributed to the discussion, which focused on Themes and Symbols in the book.

Basically the same students attended all three meetings. Almost every one of the Ruby Readers attendees went to the Movie Night event April 10. It is my opinion that students liked Song of Solomon better than they did On the Road, last semester’s chosen campus-wide read. In the Fall 2017 Semester, I will Recommend East of Eden but not Require it for my students. I will inform them of the Book Club meetings and can host one myself.

1. Dr. Laura Stafford gave a report regarding the Student Book Club Movie Night.

We had a record number of attendees for the Movie Night for the QEP SOAR Book Clubs of 83. Very few stepped out during the movie which was Beast of the Southern Wild as a thematic tie in to the novel The Song of Solomon by Toni Morrison. The softball girls made the popcorn for us and we had iced water as refreshments. The movie was shown in the Parker Center Banquet Room with Mr. Zeb Lowe giving an introduction to tie the movie into the novel. The door prizes were a great success and the two NOOK winners were present. Photos were taken and will be put on the book club boards to advertise for the fall. We gave three Barns & Nobles gift cards away as door prizes in the amounts of $25, $35, and $50. Dr. Stretcher donated 3 LSCPA Lunch bags and a large LSCPA book bag. This year I bought a book reading light to add to the door prizes. We did collect 54 surveys which Mark Knowles will tabulate to include in our Impact Report.

1. Dr. Laura Stafford gave a report for Grace Megnet regarding the Information Bulletin Board Sub-committee. The QEP SOAR Strategy boards were rotated on campus so that a different strategy would be viewed by the students entering each building. Each board promotes reading comprehension and vocabulary development strategies. These will continue to rotate through the different buildings on campus.
2. Chandra Brooks gave a report for Chandra Brooks regarding the Reading Strategies Sub-committee. It was reported that faculty and staff across campus are continuing to incorporate reading strategies into instruction. It was reported that more students are testing out of reading areas.
3. Jamie Clark gave a report for Kash Cox regarding the Reading Resource Sub-committee. It was reported that all of the links provided for the Seahawks SOAR web page are working and there have been no broken links reported.

1. **Implementation and Assessment Report**
2. Dr. Laura Stafford reported that just enough was remaining in the budget to complete the upcoming Fall Semester of 2017. This will include scantrons, refreshments, movie night, etc.
3. Mark Knowles reported that we will soon be preparing the 5th year report (Impact).
4. **Fall Semester 2017 Plans**
5. Faculty members have been asked to email suggestions regarding books to discuss in the future. At this time, East of Eden by John Steinbeck will be the book of choice for the Fall Semester 2017 for the Faculty Book Club.
6. Dr. Laura Stafford reported that East of Eden by John Steinbeck will be the book of choice for the Fall Semester of 2017 for the Student Book Club. Movie Night will be Monday, November 6, 2017 at 6 pm in the Carl Parker Center.
7. **Adjournment**
8. The next Seahawk SOAR Advisor Committee meeting was tentatively set for Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 2:30 pm. This meeting was adjourned at 3 pm.