

NHS – SGC Minutes – December 4, 2019

Members present: Reginald Roberts Principal, Parents: Jimi Napoli, April Guilbault, Tina Brescia, Bob Duff, Kevin Mullins, Bethany Vayda, Rick McQuaid. Teachers: Lauren Delong, Lynn Payton, Don Fessenden, Patricia O'Connor, Katelyn Moffet Community members: Michael Crafter, Lori Sakowitz Student reps: Jamal Boyd, Frankie Bonaddio
Members not in attendance: None

Workshop topics:

- **Homework during weekends, holiday weekends, summer** – presented by Mr. Fessenden. and April G. Power point presentation reached out to AP teachers at NHS and BMHS to gather information.
- District Program of studies states that students will have summer homework but there is no specific standard or amount stated.
- District policy also states that no homework can be assigned on religious holiday's/assignments can't be due the first day back after a religious holiday break
- Concerns about mixed messages – students complete summer work then not collected or required for 2 weeks into school. Seeking consistency across classes with teachers in amount of summer work given and how teachers handle the work at the beginning of school including due dates and recognition of the homework. There was a discussion about teacher accessibility over the summer. They are not contracted to be available for questions from students on summer homework.

Action steps: Ask dept. heads to look at SGC findings and come up with plans or bring this up at the BOE curriculum committee to focus on solutions. Mr. Roberts will address this with Dept. chairs to ensure that teachers correct, return summer work. Mr. Roberts will report back to the SGC. Also remind teachers that they need to make sure all links are active that are given for summer homework.

- **Monitoring athletic students' grades and program to maintain grades during athletes playing season: presented by Katelyn M.**
92 kids in the Carver YDP (Youth development program) most are freshman and a lot are on sports teams – meets 2:30 – 4:30 4 days week M-Th – there are 2 buses that bring them home. Teams are monitored via power school if the coach works in the building. If not they don't have access to power school so Mr. Marchetti checks on those students. Mr. Marchetti reached out to Stamford HS – they have a program that supports Athletes with homework. Coach Keyes had a model that required students with lower grades would have to come early to do homework before practice; he checked the grades and homework every day. Make this a focus for funding in the budget to monitor student grades, homework – need to check with Mr. Marchetti

Public Comments: None

Old Business

- **Reviewed and approved November minutes**
- **Healthy Vending Machines** – Mr. Roberts talked to our current vendor gave him a picture of all the things we could have in the vending machines. BCN will present to students for ideas – refrigerated machine costs \$6,000 over the year. "Healthy" snacks

available from vender include: Veggies straws, gold fish, Cheetos, popcorn, sweet potato chips. The state has requirements that are allowed. Mr. Roberts will find out what other options are available.

Lisa Lenskold – grant applicable for serving kids breakfast – NoKidhungry.org

Frankie – Jamal – student reps will coordinate a survey for students to find out– when snacks are needed most, what kids would want to see in vending machines. Report back to SGC. Jan.

- **School Parking Procedures** – New parking procedures in place – 151 spaces below 80 in bottom lot, 40 mid, 20 in science including 2 handicapped. 38 students are registered for parking. Dan Sullivan and Mr. Roberts will direct students into first two lots. Suggestion to number and assign the spots, students possibly pay for the spot, let them paint the spots. Avoid putting students in the tennis court spaces to keep them from driving around the circle. Try to get numbers by January.
- **Response from Central Office reference FOB's**
Building committee reached out to Joe Rios – push back on the price that was quoted. We are waiting for them to get back to us. It is in the budget for next year for both high schools.
- **Letter to Central Office reference need for additional counselor staff** – Mr. Roberts reported that we are under the state guidelines for counselor to student ratio – the administrative staff was cut the existing counselors are doing secretarial work which is an issue. Lauren, Reginald and Chelsea Docimo are meeting tomorrow with central office. If we do get a position the person could be SRBI, Students at risk. We partner with colleges to get interns. Possible need to ask for is support staff. Report for redesign of counseling positions is online on District website. The updated job description has not been approved yet by the district. The staff feels that we need a counselor and a secretary. Use January workshop – time to clarify needs for counseling dept.

New Business

REPORTS:

Principal's report - Mr. Roberts –

- No additional report today beyond those given in workshop discussions.

Co-Chair Report –

- “Hidden in Plain Sight” will be at BMHS Monday at 7:00 Dec. 16th if parents are interested.

Teacher Report – Mr. Fessenden

- **Campus clean up** – would like to have more SGC members participate, ROTC students supported the Nov. event, BROWN students will do it in March and PTECH will support the following event.
- Jr. ROTC collected 1,123 clothing items for the Norwalk Shelter and delivered them.

Parent Report -

- Parent approached April – asked if there is a dress code at NHS and is it enforced.

- Jill A. report from Parent club – discussions from the meetings – Wi-Fi issues in the high school – Building committee noted that concrete in the building is an issue that makes it difficult to correct the Wi-Fi situation.
- Parents concerned about Lifetouch the photography company – desire to look for new vendor. Administrator will look into it.
- Courtyard - parents asking about renovation – The building committee still has it on the plan. It is not ADA compliant – one idea was to build a platform that makes the courtyard one level. Other building issues have cost more than expected.
- Parents are concerned about the welfare of the new influx of ELL students at the school – parents would like to help in any ways that they can. Teachers coordinate gift giving for students in need. Jill/April will post on face book
- Power school problems reported from a parent – not seeing grades posted, mistakes found.
- Reminder to teachers that Funds request process closes on the 13th to apply for support from parent club.

Student Report- Many students are complaining about the bathroom situation. Students are also asking about court yards. Students also want to paint parking spaces as they do at BMHS.

Facilities/Building Report –

- Courtyard more complicated than originally thought.
- Thank you to Mr. Fessenden for his efforts with clean-up bringing ROTC and organizing ownership for next two.
- Score board is installed
- There will be news about the school next week

Additional Reports as Needed –

- Parent asked about how we get students to register as voters? Registrar does come to the school. It was suggested that we ask someone to come in during the lunch period the last day of each month.

Set Agenda for next meeting.

Parking

Traffic study

Healthy vending

Counseling redesign

Meeting adjourned 8:30 pm.