

NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL
OCTOBER 7, 2014
SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

I. WELCOME

The Site Council meeting was called to order at 3:20 p.m. The following members were present:

Ruth Carver	Liam Burgoyne
Tricia Zucker	Margaret Vercammen
Mike Ahn	Kimee Bell
Jill Wilk	Peggy Ucciferri
Rula Kassicieh	Rick Aistrophe
Jake Egley	Ben Campopiano
Shirley McClelland	Sally Anderson
Mick Ucciferri	Kourtnie Howerton
Janet Read	Melanie Scott

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nothing to report

III. APPROVED MINUTES

The June 5, 2014 and September 25, 2014 Site Council minutes were reviewed. *A motion was made to accept the May 6, 2014 minutes with revisions. The motion was seconded then approved.*

III. APPROVE STAFF, PARENTS, STUDENTS-ELECTIONS

Ben welcomed the newly elected SC members of parents, students, then Ben explained the importance that each body has to SC. After all introductions were made Ben stated how happy he was with this board as it is a great mix of teachers that consists of extra curriculum. He added that the SC bulletin board will be located next to the Attendance office and should be ready soon and advises the board about the new SC website which is linked from the main school website.

Ben explained the voting process that took place for the students and teachers. Teachers voted September 25th, and had 75% teacher participation. Students voted September 29th, with approximately 1600 ballots voting in all English classes. Ben instructed the board to move forward to approve the elected members.

Ruth Carver suggested to the board to have parent nominations during walk-thru next fall which would help elect SC parents earlier. Ben nominated Jake Egley to be in charge of reminding the board members in the spring about possible elections in the fall.

A motion was made to approve the new elected Site Council members; the motion was seconded, and then approved.

IV. VOTE FOR SC CHAIR/VICE CHAIR

SC Chair - Ben was nominated for the Chair, and gladly accepted his nomination. A unanimous vote was made approving Ben Campopiano as SC Chair.

SC Vice-Chair – Mick Ucciferri was nominated for Vice-Chair and accepted his nomination. A unanimous vote was made approving Mick Ucciferri as Vice-Chair.

V. COMMON CORE UPDATE

Ben explained his role in the common core as he is paid by the district as a common core instructional coach. His job is to help NG teachers on how to instruct students with the common core component so teachers can become more knowledgeable with the common core standards and expectations. On October 17, teachers participated in a professional development which was focused on helping staff to getting more comfortable with the common core. Michael McAlister gave a power point presentation to the staff explaining to the teachers that common core is not about what teachers are teaching, that it's more about how the teachers are delivering what they teach. NG is not up to speed as other schools with the common core, and stated that Mr. McAlister would like the common core to be the single most important curriculum focus to getting common core up to speed, because NG has a lot of catching up to do.

Newly elected teachers, Kourtne Howerton, of performing arts dept/leadership and Melanie Scott/Science dept. both commented on how the professional development inspired them, and that they enjoyed collaborating with other teachers learning how common core was being implemented into their classrooms.

Rick Aistrophe added that the leadership classes are one of the most common core subjects because of all the events that leadership students do, they create, organize, and manage many events which all have to do with students collaborating and working together.

Ben concluded that the common core emphasis is to create ideas and to make them bigger and better. He gives an example of his government classes explaining that it is difficult to find a way for his class to constantly be creative, and by using the common core he instructs his class in creating websites. Every month Ben would like to have a common core update so SC can hear the questions and concerns, and what recommendations are necessary to help the common core.

Ruth Carver would like an update regarding the testing preparedness for the common core, making sure the testing schedules are all worked out and computer problems have

been fixed. Ben reiterated how the Technology is lacking at NG. The Wi-Fi is a big problem and the multi-media lab is still lacking seven computers that were funded by SC. Also, the wiring has not been completed and Teachers computers are slow, Projectors and Elmo's are lacking. Our Technology committee has a big job.

Janet Reed questioned about the new teachers at NG having classroom management issues. Ben stated that the BTSA (Behavior Teacher Support Assessments) a state wide program who meets with teachers to help teachers with classroom issues.

VI. BUDGET UPDATE

The district informed Ben that before any budget info is to be released, Michael McAlister will need to meet with district first.

Ben directed the council to pg. 2 of the June 5th minutes to review what the proposed and approved expenditures were for 2014-15 school year. Contingent on what monies NG will receive in our budget this year, if more money is allocated then SC will have more spending to be approved, if less than cuts will have to be made. He assured the council that a budget report will be available at every meeting and sent out to members beforehand.

Ruth Carver would like confirmation of the approved English class sized reduction of \$14297.00. Ben will follow-up with the district and report back.

Peggy Ucciferri asked Ben to explain to SC members how SC funding works. Ben explained that SC funding comes through a state library grant and its main focus is to go towards the goals of the Single Plan for Student Achievement and has been approved by MDUSD for the 2014-15 school year.

VII. QUESTIONS/CONCERNS

Janet Read would like to know what the percentage of students coming to NG come from? And why is our capacity so full? How many students was NG originally built for? Ben will report back at next meeting.

Ruth Carver would like to know who is heading up the safety committee regarding the population concern.

Ben urged everyone to check out northgatesc.org, a new website for NG site council.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.

