

NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL
NOVEMBER 4, 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	Melanie Scott
Tricia Zucker	Peggy Ucciferri
Mike Ahn	Kourtnie Howerton
Jill Wilk	Sally Anderson
Rula Kassicieh	Rick Aistrophe
Mick Ucciferri	Ben Campopiano
Shirley McClelland	Janet Read
Rula Kassicieh	Kari Reed
Michael McAlister	Goli Mohammadi

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Nothing to report

III. APPROVED MINUTES

The October 7, 2014 and September 25, 2014 Site Council minutes were reviewed. *A motion was made to accept the October 7, 2014 minutes with adjustments. The motion was seconded then approved.*

III. STUDENT REPORT

Mick Ucciferri: Mock Congress is currently taking place and will be winding down in December.

Production Workshop is having a Fall Play 11/6 @7:30 pm called Complete Works of Shakespeare.

Kourtnie Howerton of Leadership explained the upcoming events in Leadership. Every Friday for the next four Fridays is Fall Friday with hot tea, hot chocolate and popcorn for sale in the forum. All sales will benefit ASB. Bronco Apparel will be for sale in the forum during lunch. A lot of new items for winter. Halloween Rally 10/31 went very well with costume contests and Flash Mob performance by the Dance one of "Thriller." Blood Drive 11/3 - out of 65 students that signed up, 45 donated. Election Day 11/4 - Students showed their patriotic colors wearing red, white & blue.

Canned Food Drive 11/5-11/19 - Donation boxes were placed in every class for a Healthy Class Competition. The class with most donated cans won a class prize.

Talent Show 11/13 - "Northgate Got Talent" – will be in the LT 7:00 pm.

Kindness Week/Spirit Week 11/17-11/21 – This is a new event encouraging students to show appreciation for others. Students gave hugs on Monday, high fives on Tuesday etc. The week ended with a Rally "I'm Thankful For" on Friday 11/21 at lunch time.

Toy Drive/Giving Tree 12/1-12/12 – Donations will acknowledge all holidays and will be located in the forum.

Book Drive 12/3-12/17 - Empowering education.

Winter Week 12/15-12/19 – Week before winter break students will have daily dress-ups and rallies at lunch.

IV. PRINCIPAL REPORT

Michael McAlister explained how the SC is designed to make sure that the school is serving the Single Plan for Student Achievement. Last year's 2013-14 school year went over budget approximately \$700.00, which will have to be covered somehow. Michael passed out a booklet called SPSA and Site Local Control and Accountability Plan Information which provided SC members a review of SC expenditures over the past three years. In summary he adds that SC has in fact served the student's needs and is in compliance with the state. Michael asks the board to do some homework by reviewing the plan more in depth by becoming more familiar with the plan and to determine if any adjustments are needed? How can site council serve NG students better?

Michael adds how WASC (Western Association of Schools and Colleges) helps in determining a plan. WASC is a committee designed of teachers and administrators visiting classrooms to determine a list of things that needs improvement. They later follow-up with a report of recommendations and direct a plan toward student achievement.

Ruth Carver mentioned she would like to see the Strategic Plan revised. Michael assured Ruth that he would follow-up on that plan at a later time.

V. ELAC REPORT

Francisco Tubio reported what ELAC is and what its role is and Northgate. ELAC stands for English Learner Advisory Community and in order to have ELAC at any school it is recommended to have more than 21 students. NG currently has approximately 8 students. The district's English Learner Master Plan is striving to improve education for students not fluent in English and is moving forward with an Ambitious English Learner Plan. The plan calls for more intensive instruction that will better serve the ELAC population. Every teacher will be receiving a handbook with strategies which will also help to implement the common core.

Francisco explained the testing process for students with English as a second language. Within 90 days of being in the district, students are placed in ELD (English learner Development). Students can test out of classes by scoring a 4 or 5 on a CLDT test, and

earning a “C” or better in English or Math classes. He adds that using Chrome books purchased by the SC last year has been very helpful in serving the ELAC development. Mr. McAlister will be presenting a PowerPoint of how to address the needs of ELAC students on site and as well as district wide.

Francisco was happy to report Linda Kattan is now a new member to the language department. Linda teaches Spanish II and III.

Northgate’s own German teacher Andrea Marek will be traveling to South Korea. She was invited to a conference at the Western International University of Seoul to represent the Stolpersteine Project. In Germany Stolpersteine are small cobble-sized memorials for victims from the Holocaust.

On 11/14 English Learners will be going to St. Mary’s for a college tour, 10 students from Northgate will be attending.

VI. COMMON CORE UPDATE

Ben reported today NG teachers had a common core professional development day. Teachers are learning practical ways to integrate common core strategies into their lesson plans.

Michael explained that he arranged Action Learning Systems to come to NG on 10/17 for a common core onsite training for departments in Math, Science, and English. Another training is scheduled later this month so teachers can learn constructive ways of implementing the common core into their classrooms. This was a very productive training and had great reviews from the teaching staff.

Melanie Scott added that sitting in groups with other Science teachers and discussing lessons plans and activities was really great and very inspiring. She got a lot out of just one day of training.

Kari Reed also added that the training helped her realize that the common core is not that different and really not that hard. It’s about changing things a bit, and feels it was a very valuable service.

Ben Campopiano and Mike Ahn reflected about today’s professional development meeting with their common subject teams. Teachers brought their own lesson plans, and learned how to “tweak” their lesson plans to the common core. Tweaking is a term used in common core for changing. Both enjoyed discussing the common core with different departments which gave them an incentive finding the information to be very helpful.

Michael added that the idea of common core is that we are not teaching content as much as we are teaching skills, and using the content to get those skills from our kids. He concluded saying that he is a big fan of common core and feels that as a school the common core is a powerful offering to our students.

Peggy Ucciferri thanked Mr. Mc Alister for his explanation of the common core, adding that she would like to help other parents to learn more about the common core perhaps an information meeting or something.

Ben stated how the common core has changed his form of teaching explaining that before he would use a power point presentation giving the information to his students, now he asks his students to bring the information to him.

VII. BUDGET UPDATE

Reported in Principal's Report

VIII. PFC REPORT

Sally Anderson is the PFC representative and reported that the Turkey Trot is 11/27, all funds PEAK Education.

Athletic Boosters Crab Feed will be 1/24/14

PFC contributed \$200 for a college fair at YVHS last week.

There have been concerns about the SRO (Student Resource Officer) at NG. What her role was as an officer on campus. Most members were relieved others not sure.

Next PFC meeting is 11/20 at 9am in the Lecture Hall.

IX. QUESTIONS/FUTURE ITEMS

Ben stated that a better location for the SC meetings was needed, perhaps temporary meeting in a classroom.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.