

MINUTES MARCH 12, 2013
NORTHGATE HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL

I. Welcome

The Site Council meeting was called to order at 3:18 p.m. The following members were present:

Ruth Carver	Judy Cubillo
John Salazar	Shirley McClelland
Kimia Zahedi	Margaret Vercammen
Lisa Liu	Teresa Bloom
John McMorris	Margaret Johnson
Stephen Brady	Mike Ahn
Peter Ceresa	Robin Spring
David Hevel	Mary Phalon

II. Approval of Minutes

The March 12, 2013 Site Council minutes were reviewed. A motion was made to accept the March 12 2013 minutes. The motion was made and seconded.

III. Student Report

Junior Rep: Dagem Getahun: (Not attending due to Tennis Team)

Santa Cruz Jazz Festival (a competition) Mar15-16, Attending: Jazz Bands I & II, and the Jazz Combo.

Also, the NHS Jazz Band I will also compete at the Monterey Generations in Jazz Festival April 6-7.

Junior Rep: Kimia Zahedi and Andrew Morris:

JSA: Spring State Convention April 26-28...agenda includes debating various topics such as gun control, gay marriage, pro-life vs. pro-choice.

Junior Rep: Riley Barnes: (Not attending due to Track practice)

Successful Musical America program last 2 weeks...this funds the Disneyland trip in April for Choral groups.

Junior Rep: Octavia Bond: (Not attending due to Varsity Softball)

Northgate had a successful Multi-Cultural Assembly performances great spirit exhibited by all. Octavia performed the Samurai Sword Dance.

Junior Rep: Lisa Liu:

Junior Prom is on 3/23 at the Sequoia Clubhouse in Oakland, last day for ticket sales will be 3/13.

Trevor Tonsing Blanket Festival, this Thursday in the Forum and Cafeteria. This can be used for CSF hours.

Last day for CSF Forms for 2nd Semester were due last week, all AP contracts are due today.

IV. Principals Report

The MODEL UN Team placed third at the National MODEL UN Conference in New York. Our own ICJ Rachel Ball Jones took 2nd place; she is a Las Lomas student. There will be an article in the Contra Costa Times.

Mr. McMorris gave a shout out to Mark Uhrenholt, our VP substitute who is filling in for Jesika Essapour. Mr. Uhrenholt was very impressed with our student's at the Multicultural assembly last week; he said NHS students were the best he has seen in 30 years.

Mr. McMorris explains a possible new path for NHS. After reviewing the last five years of curriculum for NHS, it was determined that the academic program at NG really hasn't changed. More students are getting D's and F's, and remained constant about 500. Also, in other areas student's going to Junior Colleges needed more remedial courses. Changes need to be made to our academic program so we began planning curriculum for the next five years. Last Friday the Curriculum Council went to Willow Creek to decide what we want from an ideal school. We invited the assistant superintendent of Livermore School district to discuss Granada H.S as a model school. We're interested in Livermore because Granada H.S. is a mirror image in many ways to NHS such as their API's and population. Granada has gone to a Trimester calendar. The superintendent came and talked about why they moved to a Trimester calendar and what did it do for them. We also talked about Link Learning. Mr. McMorris summarizes that Link Learning is teams working with the common core to establish progress base learning where students are performing in a professional world. Mark Tobin has created a website. To go to this website, Google Tobin's corner and click the NG tab at top and select NGHS 21st Century in the drop

down. The NG Bronco mural will appear then click the center of the mural and it will take you into the portal of the website. Mr. McMorris encourages everyone to check this website and to contribute to the conversation.

The next step will be to visit Granada H.S. next Thursday to talk to their staff. Then NG will invite Granada people so they can share with us how the Trimester Calendar worked for them. Site Council members will be invited to this event and will take place in the LH. Mr. McMorris concluded that he would like this to be an open process and wants it thought out thoroughly, to make sure if this is something we want for our school. If approved, the earliest this would be put in place is the 2014-15 school year.

V. Judy Cubillo/Stephen Brady (Safety Plan)

Judy Cubillo shared student data of the Safety Plan. Once a year the Safety Plan is revised and comes to the Site Council for approval then goes to the School Board. Ms. Cubillo summarized the discipline in the last three years. The data is not consistent because NG has changed the way discipline has been handled. The discipline used to be handled by one Administrator and was too overwhelming, so now the discipline is divided up by alphabet. She added that we have a stronger team of Campus Supervisors than in 2010-11 and together they bring more problems to the surface which would explain why our discipline numbers are higher in 2012-13. Discussion followed about how the plan is used to inform the district about safety issues.

SARB/SART- Attendance has been kept in order, compliments go out to Shirley McClelland. With letters, attendance meetings, and disciplinary Saturday School Shirley helps bring awareness to students and parents of the importance of attendance. Shirley stated that the process does work. In her eight years at NG she has only seen a handful of students get to the 4th level and be forwarded onto Juvenile Court.

Mrs. Cubillo reviewed data on several safety goals, such as training staff for Crisis interventions and drills. The other was inventory first-aid backpacks and re-supplying first-aid backpacks to all classrooms. We would also need to purchase additional first-aid kits to other areas of the school. First-aid kits and backpacks can cost \$4000.00 and for the rest of the areas of the school approximately \$2000.00 that will need to do be done for the next school year.

There is a big issue for campus lighting especially at night while students are being dismissed from athletic events, and in the early morning of daylights savings. This brings a big concern for student's safety. Also, some lights are not working properly and needs maintenance.

Ms. Spring suggests publicizing the needs and wants of the school so that seniors may find ideas for their senior project. This encourages them to do something that is a productive contribution to the community. Everyone wins.

Mrs. Cubillo concluded her safety plan. She will re-write the goals towards campus safety and identify the needs for better lighting at NG. There was motion to approve the Safety Plan, the motion was seconded and a unanimous vote to approve the plan was taken.

VI. Technology Advisory Committee

A lot of good things are happening in Technology. The district will be distributing 10-12 million dollars of technology equipment from Measure C. The Tech committee believes that it was more equitable to get all the schools across the district to base line, which is taking the common core test. Equipment is geared partially so that all current freshmen as juniors will be able to take the test on this technology. Teachers will receive a tech package that is specified to their subject of teaching such as laptops, smart boards etc.

Budget Updates

Mr. Hevel reported that the iPads purchased for Global Perspective were given to students this week.

VII. Math Department

Mr. Ceresa reported on class size reduction in the Math department for the Freshman Algebra classes. Class size would be approximately twenty eight opposed to thirty seven with the reduction. He adds that the biggest need is students in Resource. Currently he has a class of twenty nine and it's hard to accommodate students with preferential seating especially since thirteen are resource students. Seating benefits the learning, and easier to reach and walk around the room. The AIMS classes are also being looked at for improvement. Most classes are split into two – students who have the ability and motivation to succeed, and then the others that don't have the motivation and maturity and needs extra attention.

Students are no longer forced to take Algebra at the middle school level. The middle schools are developing Algebra readiness classes like they did years ago. This will help students with a more successful start and smaller class sizes will help. Mr. Ceresa adds that the NG Math department and Foothill Math department are working together and communicating.

VIII. Mary Phalon (PFC)

Spring for Education is Friday night April 12, 2013. Any teachers wanting to attend we have donations for teacher tickets.

We're working on the budget for the 2013-14 school year, as well as working on the needs and wants... so we need to get our donations up.

We have a lot of equipment coming our way through Measure C, and PFC is working on how to support it.

Our next PFC meeting is April 21, 2013 at 7 pm in the Library and we will continue the budget discussions.

Free event: NG/Foothill Concerts - March 26-28 at 7:30 pm in the LT.

IX. Next Steps

Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.