

High School Planning Council Minutes

2/08/11

Members Present: Maryellen Symer, Jen Adams, Melissa Thomas, Tim Brunson, Dan LeClaire, Brian Kane, Stephanie Andrejcek, Jen Jonaitis, Marta Roberts-Pekar, John Antoski, Helen Smrstik, Jordan Armstrong

Absent: Sheryl Lauria, Laurie Kruppenbacher, Jacki Grassmann, Amy Durant, Donna Thomas, Lia Mavridou

1. **Announcements:**

SGO:

- Spirit Week is the week of February 14th.
- There will be three tournaments during AAP: Jailbreak, Dodgeball, and the Suburban Council Co-Ed Dodgeball qualifier (Academic detention students are not eligible to play in these tournaments). The schedule will be posted in the back hall behind the library. Students will not need to miss three AAP in one week to play in any of these tournaments.
- The dodgeball finals will be March 4th at 6:30 pm.
- The Superintendent's Advisory Board will be meeting with Mr. Schultz on Wednesday, February 9th during AAP.

PTSA:

- Founder's Day was held on February 3rd. The recipients from the high school were Maryanne Doyle and Mike and Monique Batty. Please see the BH-BL website for a complete list of all district award winners.
- Mr. Schultz gave the closing remarks for the Founder's Day celebration and stressed the importance of parental input during the budget process.

Cabinet:

- The cabinet meeting was postponed due to the snow day. It will be rescheduled.

CSEA:

- No report

2. **Old Business:**

- Budget: Please see the website to view Mr. Schultz's presentation from the February 9th community budget forum.
- NYSED Input Survey: the deadline for the survey related to the potential revision of high school graduation requirements has been extended until February 18th. Please take the time to complete this survey. (Approximately 7,000 survey responses have been received statewide).
- A NYS Board of Regents Regional Forum was held at South Colonie on January 25, 2011 to discuss high school graduation requirements. The meeting was facilitated by Capital Region

BOCES District Superintendent, Charles Dedrick. The forum panel consisted of Commissioner Steiner, Deputy Commissioner King, and Chancellor Tisch. Discussion focused on why requirements needed to change, increased graduation requirements to college and career ready levels, delivery flexibility, alternative or supplemental credentials, and rethinking the safety net for students with disabilities.

- The State Education Department has secured donations of about \$4 million dollars to implement a “Fellows” program. Chancellor Tisch stated “The Fellows program will bring together bold thinkers who are passionate about reform and deeply committed to ensuring that all of our children receive the education they deserve. With the help of these talented thoughtful leaders, we can make New York’s reform agenda a reality.” Donations have been received from Commissioner Tisch (\$1 million); Leona and Harry Helmsely Charitable Trust (\$1.5 million); Bill and Melinda Gates (\$892,500); National Association of Charter School Administrators (\$50,000); and the Carnegie Corporation (\$50,000); and the Amy and Larry Robbins Foundation (\$500,000), a group that recently contributed \$2 million towards the cost of building a new elementary charter school campus in NYC.
- The Student and Faculty Handbook revision process will take place during the month of March. If you have input, please forward it to one of the members of planning council.

3. **New Business:**

- Members of Planning Council have been asked to complete a survey evaluating the shared decision making process at the high school. When the surveys are complete, they will be reviewed by the building council and a shared decision making biannual review will be conducted. It was decided to postpone the review until the March meeting in order to provide time to gather input from survey responses.
- Planning Council would like the building to evaluate the local exam schedule. *Please watch for a survey so that you can provide input.* Some factors to consider are: Do you currently use the 100 minute block of time? Could you give a final during the last 2-4 days of a semester in a regular 80 minute block? Could we build final exams into Regents week? What will NYS do with January Regents week in the future?

4. **Committee Reports:**

- Please watch for and read the minutes of our building committees.
- Academic Climate: meeting Wednesday, February 9th.
- Health and Wellness: recently met and sent out minutes.
- Technology Committee: Met February 3rd. Please see the minutes. If you are interested in any of the remaining machines removed from the library you need to let Maryellen Symer know by February 28th.
- Safety and Security Committee: Please see the recent minutes. Hand sanitizer is available if you provide a bottle. Spray cleaner is also available. Please request through Matt Sargen.