

High School Planning Council Minutes

1/11/11

Members Present: Maryellen Symer, Jen Adams, Melissa Thomas, Tim Brunson, Donna Thomas, Brian Kane, Stephanie Andrejcak, Jen Jonaitis, Marta Roberts-Pekar, Jacki Grassmann, Lia Mavridou, Sheryl Lauria, Jordan Armstrong, Siena Wilder

1. **Announcements:**

SGO:

- Candy cane sales for eight days during the month of December broke a record and raised \$225.00.
- SGO contributed \$75 to the Giving Tree
- The class of 2013 contributed a gift card as well.
- Jordan Armstrong reported that there will be a suburban council dodge ball tournament on April 30th. Burnt Hills, Shenendehowa, Guilderland, and Shaker have signed up to participate. This group will be meeting on January 31st to discuss logistics. All proceeds will be given to the Hannah's Hope Foundation.
- There will be a meeting to plan for the Superintendent's Advisory Board. This group will meet with Mr. Schultz on February 1st to discuss the impact of this year's budget and the formation of the future budget. (This board consists of 10 students—4 SGO Executive Officers, 3 Class Presidents, 2 sophomores, and a freshman. They will meet on a monthly basis from January until the budget process is complete).
- Spirit week will be planned Monday, January 24th, following local exams.

PTSA:

- PTSA met January 4th. Board member Joe Pericone spoke at the meeting in regards to budget input and parental involvement. Parents are encouraged to speak at public forums and budget meetings.
- Founder's Day is February 3rd. Please send RSVP's to Arlene in the Principal's office.
- The pie fundraiser is coming.....
- There is a secret theme for the teacher appreciation luncheon.....

Cabinet:

- Met January 5th.
- College and Career Readiness survey has been released by NYS Dept. of Education. Please see email for details and opportunity to respond to this survey.
- An email went out illustrating the placement of new computers around the building. The library lab received 25 new computers (using existing monitors),

the lab in Room 127 received 2 new machines, and eight classrooms received a new computer. The distribution of machines to the classrooms was determined based on the age of the equipment in the classrooms. There are some remaining machines from the library. Interested classrooms will need monitors and power. The technology committee will be meeting to discuss recommendations for distribution of remaining, functioning equipment and requests for innovative technology.

CSEA:

- No report

2. **Old Business:**

- Budget: there are several unknowns as the budget process begins. Will there be a 2% tax cap? Cut to state aid? This could cause a significant gap in funds for next school year (2-4 million dollars). It could be beneficial to write letters to government representatives—What would a 2% tax cap do to suburban schools?

3. **New Business:**

- Please visit the following link to remain informed on the NYS Teaching Standards Draft Document:
<http://www.highered.nysed.gov/tcert/resteachers/memo11172010.html>
- This information was also sent out in an email from Mrs. Symer. The email includes the current graduation requirements, the draft document, and the survey link. This is an opportunity for input. The survey will take 20-30 minutes and must be done in one sitting. All responses are due by January 31st at 10 am.
- The handbook revision process has been started. Email Jen if you have any questions or concerns regarding both the faculty and student handbooks.

4. **Committee Reports:**

- Academic Climate: Administration has addressed the issue of students in the science wing during lunch and in the cafeteria during learning labs by completing a walk through whenever possible. This committee is looking at a website, WATCH DOGS (Dads Of Great Students). Dads have volunteered their time to be a presence in some schools. This is something to investigate since losing hall monitors and supervision.
- Health and Wellness: met Thursday, January 6th. Planning the corporate challenge and additional wellness activities for faculty and staff.
- Technology Committee: Next meeting Tuesday, February 1st at 2:30 in room 214. Requests for use of \$7000 in technology funds will be reviewed and prioritized. Please see emailed agenda and plan to send a representative from each department.

- Transition Committee: the survey has been sent to the classes of 2006, 2008, and 2010. Some responses are coming back and all responses will be analyzed by members of the committee.
- Safety Committee: Renee Tolan is new committee co-chair. Thanks Renee!
- Staff Development: meeting Thursday, January 13th to discuss the timing of staff development days, future offerings, etc. (When a choice of workshops is offered people have more options. However, the depth of a presentation is sacrificed due to time constraints). According to the survey completed following the November staff development half day, staff development related to Powerschool is a top priority.
- Kate Gurley sent a survey related to the most recent half day staff development. 4-5 people have responded.