

High School Planning Council Minutes

10/11/11

Members Present: Maryellen Symer, Melissa Thomas, Siena Wilder, Lia Mavridou, Jackie Grassmann, Renee Tolan, Kelly Leone, Amy Durant, Tim Brunson, Pete Mody, Chris Gangemi, Dante DiPrimio, Helen Smrstik, Chris Reach, Theresa Brenon

Absent: Dan LeClaire, Laurie Kruppenbacher, John Antoski

Announcements:

SGO:

- Friday, October 14th the pep rally will take place during 4th block. The pep rally will honor fall sports teams and students earning a GPA of 92.5% or higher for the 2010-11 school year.
- The Homecoming football game is Saturday, October 15th at 2:30. There will be a chicken BBQ on Saturday as well.
- SGO members met with the Board of Education to discuss the qualities they would like to see in our new Superintendent. There was a good turnout for the meeting.

PTSA:

- PTSA voted in their officers and all positions are filled.
- We are again having the pie fundraiser in the spring and including a Cookie fundraiser just before Christmas.
- The PTSA will vote on the \$5,000.00 donation to the High School at the November meeting.
- Maryellen has decided to put \$1200 of the funds towards field trips. This will not provide for additional field trips from previous years. The money will keep our field trip number level because the cost of out-of-district field trip buses has doubled from \$100 to \$200. There is still \$3800 available from the gifted money. Maryellen is looking for input and ideas for these funds. Please contact her with your suggestions.
- PTSA meets every other month. The next meeting will occur in November.

CSEA:

- The High School custodial team has been understaffed this fall. They are doing the best they can with the people they have available and the construction taking place. Please be patient with maintenance requests.

Cabinet:

- Cabinet minutes will be distributed. Please see your department rep, K-12 or Maryellen with any questions you may have.

Old Business

- ◆ **First day of school** – a survey was distributed to the faculty regarding the schedule for the first day of school. The results were as follows: 49% preferred a combined A & B day; 36% prefer a normal A day, 14% had no preference. There were a few questions about the lunch schedule so the schedule that was used in 2009-10 will be reviewed and discussed next month.
- ◆ **Powerschool Pilot Update:**
 - ◆ The recent upgrade has created login problems for both parents and students.
 - ◆ There has been feedback showing that portal training for both parents and students would be beneficial. There is a parent training session being planned for January. It was suggested that the Powerschool committee discuss setting up additional training sessions for parents and students.
 - ◆ Another suggestion was that teachers do a demonstration showing students how to access the portal in their classes.

New Business

- **Board of Education Reviews and School Visits** – At the summer retreat the BOE members, administrators, and TA members discussed increasing communication with the buildings and faculty members. They have planned classroom visits to help increase communication. Please see the attached documents: BOE Goals for 2011-12 and the schedule for Program Reviews.
- **SED Update:**
 - The new APPR requirements apply to teachers of grades 4-8 of math and ELA with greater than 50% of their caseload taking a state assessment.
 - Race to the Top Initiatives are also focused on grades 4-8 math and ELA.
 - Inquiry Teams are a requirement of RTTT. SED clarified that every building needs an inquiry team. The High School Inquiry Team is Cabinet. They will be responsible for reviewing student achievement data to determine RTTT initiatives.
- **IEP Information:** Michelle Dalbec will do a presentation and answer questions on accessing IEP information through Powerschool at the October faculty meeting.
- **RESOURCE ROOMS:** All resource rooms will be locked throughout the day due to lack of supervision and vandalism. If you are a learning lab teacher please do not allow your students to go to a resource room to see a teacher unless they have a pre-signed pass.

Building Committees

- **Guiding Coalition** – has not met this month.
- **Academic Climate** – Met in September to set their goals for the year. The next meeting will occur on October 26 at 2:30 in the Principal's Conference Room. Please see Amy Durant or Tim Brunson if you have questions or items for the agenda.
- **Technology/Powerschool** – This year the High School has approximately \$25,000-\$30,000 of technology funds available. A proposal request form was distributed electronically to gather input on items that departments would like to request with this money. The committee will meet on Tuesday, October 18th to discuss the proposals and prioritize the requests. The committee will then make its recommendations to the Principal who will make all final decisions. Please contact Brad Thomas or Pete Mody if you have questions or concerns.
- **Staff Development** – The District Staff Development Committee will hold its next meeting on October 18th. There are two department SD half-days in November. The building reps are currently reviewing the survey results from the day in SD day in September. This information will be used to discuss options for the March and May Building half-days. A brief discussion occurred about providing staff development survey results to Planning Council and all K-12's to assist in the organization of building and department days. A suggestion was made to have Planning Council provide more input into the planning of Staff Development Building Days.
- **Bullying/Dignity for All** – Met in October and establish their goals for the year. "To review the Dignity for All Legislation and make necessary recommendations and implement programs that increase anti-bullying awareness for parents, students, faculty and staff." This committee will be co-chaired by Tim Brunson and Cheryl Bach.
- **Health & Wellness** – Met in October and discussed the idea of Wellness Wednesdays with healthy themes for students. The first wellness Wednesday will be October 26th – Yoga. The committee's minutes were distributed via email. Please contact Danielle Manning or Carolyn Litynski if you have any questions or concerns about the committee's work.
- **Safety & Security** – Has not set a meeting date yet. Please contact Renee Tolan or Maryellen Symer if you are interested in working with this committee.
- **RTI** - There is a district RTI committee and a building RTI committee. The building will hold its first meeting on Nov.15th. Capital Region BOCES will be hosting the "3rd Annual RTI Summit" on November 4th from 8am-3pm at Union College. Please contact Lia Mavridou if you have questions or are interested in participating in this committee.

Committee chairs are reminded to use the district meeting calendar (on First Class) when scheduling meetings.