

School Council
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2017

Meeting commenced at 3:36 p.m.

- 1) Student Handbook (in between looking at SIP)
 - There are some things that are required by law to be in the Handbook that make it large and unwieldy.
 - There are other things that might be useful to have in the Handbook that aren't.
 - a. A few pieces were added a few years ago.
 - b. There were several suggestions about the curriculum piece.
 - c. The Exit Standards were up for discussion; should they be in the Handbook in detail? Should they be elsewhere?
 - d. Some changes have been made in the high school Exit Standards, like the college course requirement and the community service hours required.
 - e. Deirdre asked the reason students are required to memorize certain poems; Ted explained the reasons. The school is a combination of “old-fashioned” and innovative, with poem memorization being “old-fashioned”, with many valid reasons to do it.
 - f. When teachers look over the Handbook, they need to be reminded that these Exit Standards are current and should be being followed.
 - g. Changes in AP course explanations were added in response to questions from parents and students.
 - h. National Honor Society information clarifying this organization was added.
 - Suggestions for changes:
 - a. Teachers want to look at the Exit Standards to see if they need to be amended.
 - b. There are going to be changes made to EOM's in Level III to bring more science to the level.
 - c. Kirsten requested that honor roll standards be clarified in the Handbook.
 - d. She also asked if something could be put in the Handbook about Honors high school classes.
 - e. Formatting the document may be in order; there are some inconsistencies.
 - f. Additions about Senior Project may be in order, per requests.
 - g. Changes to the Athletics section will be made; Angie read necessary language to include, which concerns opioid use.
 - There are additional items in the Athletic Handbook that are not in the Student Handbook; there should be a link on the website sending parents to the Athletic Handbook for this information.
 - It was suggested by Kerry that parental responsibility for pickup after athletic events be emphasized in the Athletic Handbook.
 - Parent behavior and marijuana use should also be in the Athletic Handbook.

- Concussion information also needs to be in both the Student and Athletic Handbooks.
 - h. Kirsten asked that guidelines on how a student could start a club or other organization be put in the Handbook.
 - i. Deirdre asked about finances for clubs or organizations; Ted said that Kristine has clear rules about such things.
 - j. June asked if the rule about “no smoking” at school events should also be accompanied by “no drinking”. Angie agreed that although this is in the Code of Conduct, it should be added under Events as well.
 - k. It also needs to be in the Handbook that the Administration can refuse entry to an event if they believe a student is drunk or high, even without proof. Parents are always called if a student leaves a school event early.
 - l. Information for PSAT testing for 8th graders is being added since we are testing them, and some of the tests are named differently from regular PSAT’s
 - m. *Ted will talk to Angie about study guides.*
 - n. Ted admitted the school doesn’t do as well as we could on tardiness and absence issues.
 - o. He said we could add to the Handbook a sentence that students with excessive absences and/or tardies will be notified in writing each quarter.
 - p. CHINS is now called something else; this needs to be clarified.
 - q. Kerry noticed that the Handbook doesn’t contain the information that the school is mandated to have a Homeless Coordinator, and the fact that there could be people eligible for benefits or services.
- 2) The members of the Council are welcome to look over the Handbook to see if there are any other changes they believe should be made.
 - 3) The Level Coordinators met with Angie and Ted about the SIP and how we don’t currently have something in it about evaluating the Plan each year to make sure we’re following it.
 - 4) Kirsten suggested it would be good to put in the SIP how many graduates then go on to graduate from college with a degree; Kerry pointed out that this is good information for Development.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Attending:

June Fontaine	Deirdre Hall
Kirsten Mullen	Ted Hirsch
Kerry Griffin	Angie Pepin