

**School Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 1, 2018**

Meeting commenced at 3:40 p.m.

- 1) School Improvement Plan goals for FY19, present assignments and give feedback.
  - a) Angie showed different models of SIPs to see how we can adjust ours.
    - Family Communication Goal
      - Kerry handed out her draft revisions of this goal
      - Having a family resource link on the website would be very helpful.
      - It would include lunch and breakfast documents, internship information, SNAP benefits, food pantries, etc.
      - Pam is very interested in shortening the Update, with links.
      - Training for faculty to use communication tools.
      - Partnering with PA to communicate with targeted school demographics.
      - The goal is to strengthen the tools we already have and explore new tools.
      - We don't want to "reinvent the wheel" by creating something that already exists.
      - More authors for the main front page article of the Update, not just Angie and Alicia.
      - More things could go on the website to explain Charter norms like EOMs; "Charter Chat" (explaining charter terms); sports information, etc.
      - Staff directory, pictures, descriptions, etc. are helpful. Many parents don't know last names of faculty and staff, making it harder to look them up.
      - August mailing can be cut way down and perhaps done electronically next year.
      - Kerry believes letters from different administrators etc, are important and should not be eliminated, assuming they don't all say the same thing.
      - Vetting of ads in the Update?
      - Finding someone who can keep the website regularly updated is important
      - Asking the PA for things/services is a way to empower them.
      - Angie will do three new-parent seminars next year, with a changed emphasis; not so much on curriculum, but how SSCPS is different from other schools, what makes us unique, what parents most want and need to know; parent reps can be invited to help out with that.
      - Putting articles etc. on the website in different languages would probably help reach more parents.
      - We could use Google Translate to translate articles for the website and ask appropriate families to proof the translation.
    - Family Engagement Goal
      - Cissy worked on this goal
      - Parent coffees might be better attended if they are titled something that gives parents the understanding that it's not the same thing they've already heard.

- Cissy talked about how it would be great to have more parents on School Council.
- Half of the School Council is supposed to be parents, representative of the whole school; we need more. We need to replace members who are no longer coming.
- Faculty could offer names of people to reach out to.
- Getting working parents to come can be hard because of the time of the meeting, and getting non-working parents with small children to come is hard too; we could perhaps provide babysitting by students.
- There aren't as many opportunities for parent involvement and helping at the high school level.
- Karen used to be the School Council rep for the PA and would report to the PA what was happening with the Council.
- Angie thinks there should be two representatives from each level at School Council.
- Kerry suggested it would be helpful to have more faculty at PA meetings, to help with the connection.
- Assess the current state of the community and plan for increased family involvement.
- Sub-committees for School Council can be created to work on some of the areas we are looking to improve.
- Have currently active parents reach out to other parents to get them more involved, especially more diverse populations.
  
- College Planning Goal
  - New guidance counselor (Stephanie) who works with freshmen and sophomores
  - She will take over the accommodations piece for PSATs and SATs.
  - Mary wants to use Naviance as early as freshman year.
  - Naviance is a program familiar to more parents.
  - Parent nights need to be more spread out.
  - Chyten is good but needs tweaking in some areas, like making test prep internal with our teachers.
  - Leveling could be very helpful for test prep.
  - The College Room is a space for seniors; our students don't get many senior privileges so they appreciate it.
  - Students who are able to complete on-the-spot admission to [any] colleges have much more confidence to apply to schools they really want to get in.
  - Families need to have the college admission process explained to them so they're not worrying their student isn't getting the attention they need. Grade reps can help disseminate the way the information is made clear.

*For next meeting, we want to look over and talk about:*

## 2) Student and Family Handbook Revision

- a) Feedback: student, parent/guardian, faculty
- b) Timeline

Meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Attending:

Angie Pepin  
Mary Carter  
Karen Boyle  
Caroline Boyle  
Nora Broderick  
Kerry Griffin  
Kai Schildmeier  
Bobby Thacker  
June Fontaine  
Cissy White