**School Community Council Meeting Minutes**

**January 4, 2010**

**5:15 p.m.**

**PRHS Bobcat Cafe**

Present: Carol Lurie, Linda Horton, Pam Harland, Carolyn Varin, Dawn Day, Doug Ross, Bruce Parsons, Jade McLaughlin, Donni Hughes, Peter Gulick, Barbara Noyes, Isabel Rollison, Julie Fogarty, Robert Price, Gillian Cavezzali, Maryanna Swanson, Gail Poitrast, Lisa Ash

1. Minutes from the December meeting were approved.
2. Change in schedule discussion began immediately.
3. Peter asked Isabel to present the survey that the student senate had created.

The committee offered several suggestions for changes in the wording and finally agreed on several short questions.

The questions on the student survey will include:

Do you want our current schedule to change? Or

Do you feel a need to see a schedule change?

Is 90 minutes an effective length of time for all of your classes?

Are there any classes that you feel need to meet for a shorter time but more frequently during the week?

The committee also agreed to write a brief statement at the top of all surveys and to distribute them to academic advisory following school board approval.

Carol Lurie suggested as the preamble to the student surveys: “The SCC is a committee concerned with your education. We want to know how our current schedule works for you.”

Isabel will update the survey and email it to Peter for approval.

She will then forward a final copy to Bruce who will ask the school board for approval to distribute to all students.

We will distribute the approved student survey at Academic Advisory in February and bring the survey results back to the SCC at our meeting in March.

1. Item 3 on the agenda was withdrawn so as not to add to the number of schedule possibilities already being considered.
2. The 4 Day School Week was discussed.

Several concerns were pointed out:

Students in CTE would lose time on a 7 period day

How would sports & clubs be impacted?

Would buses run for students who needed to come in on Fridays?

Would a drastic change in our schedule negatively impact sharing of buses?

Donni pointed out that the biggest reason that GED/adult education students did not finish high school traditionally is due to the lack of flexibility in the schedule. Several students indicated that most high school schedules are too rigid for them.

School hours: 135 hrs/week under our current block schedule

 144 hrs/week under 4 day/8 periods

Bob asked: Are we happy with our current achievement results?

What do we have control over that we can look at changing?

1. Doug presented the survey for the faculty.
The survey that was originally created is too in-depth.

The committee decided to simplify the faculty survey and align it to reflect the current student survey.

Gillian made a motion to use the amended student survey as a template in order to survey students, faculty, administration, and parents with approval of the school board.

1. Bob presented five years of SAT/ACT scores and two years of NECAPS.

Bob also presented Hanover High School’s schedule as an example of a school that has high test scores.

1. During the month of February a subcommittee will meet to put together the student surveys, distribute them, collect them, and analyze the data.
The next SCC meeting is Monday March 1st at 5:15 p.m. in the Bobcat cafe.