**SCC Meeting Minutes**

**September 15, 2015**

**PRHS Library**

Present: Bruce Parsons, Doug Ross, Bob Price, Amey Bailey, Julie Fogarty, Jack Friedman, Lilly Friedman, Peter Templeton, Kyle Sanders, Will Gunn, Maria Sanders, Barbra Noyes, Ryan Amtmann, Emelia Fleck

* Ryan Amtmann called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m
* Introductions
* The SCC meeting minutes from June were accepted
* With modifications (voting policy includes the principle as a voting member)
* In September of 2014 the faculty voted on the five voting members who would represent the faculty in the SCC. Will this practice happen at the next faculty meeting?
* Yes, the faculty and support staff will be asked for volunteers who are willing to represent the SCC as a voting member. They will then be voted upon by the faculty and support staff
* These members will represent the faculty and support staff as a whole, they are not representing individual departments
* Ryan reminded the committee what the School Community Council’s main objectives are
* The SCC represents all aspects of the school community from faculty, support staff, administration, students and parents
* The mission of the SCC is to address different topics that vary each year by examining, discussing, researching and collecting feedback from our constituents regarding the chosen topic
* Voting on recommendations or changes occurs at the end of each school year
* The SCC has an ‘any idea clause’ which allows anyone to bring up any issue to the SCC for possible examination or diversion to an alternative committee/forum
* The SCC meets on the first Monday of every other month at 5:15 pm in the PRHS Library
* Academic Advisory
* Two years ago the SCC examined Academic Advisory and made a recommendation to the School Board. Last year Will Gunn conducted a year of extensive research
* Mr. Bruce Parsons explained that currently, in the 2015-2016 school year, selected faculty members and students will be traveling to Conval high school to examine their Advisory
* It was originally stated that the start of the 2015-2016 school year a new academic program would be integrated. Were there changes made due to the fact that the program was not ready?
* No. The current scheduling is not conducive
* For implementation there needs to be more stakeholders involved
* Currently the general feeling surrounding Academic Advisory by faculty and students is that it absorbs valuable time. Due to this impression Will Gunn and the Academic Advisory Committee want to insure that the program that is implemented is strong and benefits the school wide community in a constructive, positive way
* Are there any updates on the expected modifications or changes in the Academic Advisory schedule?
* During the 2015-2016 school year there will not be any changes to the current program or schedule.
* There will not be as many Advisory dates scheduled this year, meetings will only occur to distribute information and will not be as structured as in years past
* Implementing a new Academic Advisory model may affect the current schedule
* Ryan reiterated the fact the although it may not be implemented immediately, the work conducted within the SCC results in a final outcome eventually
* Ryan asked Barbara Noyes to update the committee concerning the outcome of the presented SCC topics for the 2015-2016 school year at the June School Board meeting
* The School Board was enthusiastic about the proposed topics and approved them all
* Weighted grades, bring your own device policy, schedule, in house tutoring, positive peer outreach and in-house community building, community outreach
* The SCC was asked to finalize their proposals during the current meeting by selecting two topics for examination. These two topics will be presented to the School Board again and voted upon at their next meeting
* Ryan asked the committee to revisit the June minutes and familiarize themselves with the six proposed topics
* The floor was open for discussion
* The bring your own device policy is currently being examined by the Student Government
* It was stated that the current policy had been relaxed last year
* The School Board policy has not changed
* The students were surveyed and asked to share what personal devices they currently owned to gather more information
* In house tutoring was discussed extensively during the 2014-2015 school year
* Within other schools it is a responsibility of the NHS to gather volunteer hours as well as tutoring hours
* In house tutoring builds a structure for student leadership
* Weighted grades
* Many students would like to examine this topic
* This topic has been addressed in years past and has traditionally been a controversial topic
* PSU is launching a major community outreach project
* Community Conversations, a group of non-profit, Government agencies and Educational agencies that have been meeting in the greater Plymouth area
* They held their first ‘Share Fair’ this past year at PES with the hopes that people would not be competing for the same grant funding.
* Over 60 organizations attended
* The group has decided to purse a ‘happiness quest’ using the Plymouth region as a case study involving the high school students, college level students and adults. Levels of happiness will be assessed via self reported surveys
* For 1-year there will be activities, such as a cross-town Monopoly game to promote community collaboration. The more engaged civically and community involvement people have the more happiness they have
* This committee is seeking high school involvement by incorporating community outreach.
* This may receive a lot if state and national media attention
* This may be a way to align the SCC with a leadership role
* What role would the SCC play at this time? What role would the students play at this time?
* The SCC would help to develop a structure within the school that would provide students with the opportunity to participate
* Who are the organizers?
* The leaders are represented by a three-way partnership between PSU, Pemi-Youth Center and United Way along with over 60 non-profit agencies that are involved
* If this topic was chosen to pursue it would fall under ‘community outreach’
* ­It was suggested that weighted grades and scheduling would be a challenge to pursue and have already been discussed numerous times in the past
* Would it help to ask the PRHS Guidance counselors if weighted grades assist with College admission?
* PRHS is recognized as a school that does not administer weighted grades
* If the SCC choses this topic than there are three approaches that can be taken
* Interviewing the majority of the colleges in our area where the majority of our students attend. What are they looking for? What do they do with weighted grades?
* Look philosophically behind the reasons of integrating weighted grades. What are the benefits? Why might schools not be in favor of weighted grades? An even approach.
* Compare how many schools in the State of NH use weighted grades as opposed to how many do not
* This would provide a basic landscape for approaching

the topic

* Scheduling
* Examining the current schedule as well as alternatives. Knowing that there are benefits for certain subjects and disadvantages for others, what would work best for PRHS today?
* Each voting committee was given two votes between in-house tutoring, weighted grades, community outreach and scheduling.
* Each member was asked to write down their name followed by their first and second topic choice
* Weighted grades (7 votes), in-house tutoring (6 votes), schedule (4) community outreach (3)
* The School Board will be presented with the topics of weighted grades and in-house tutoring

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, November 2nd, at 5:15pm in the PRHS Library