**SCC Meeting Minutes**

**April 3, 2012**

**PRHS Library**

Present: Amanda Bussolari, Peter Gulick, Beth Harrington, Jordan Brownstein, Kate Brownstein, Deborah Brownstein, Bruce Parsons, Robert Price, Chris Demian, Carolyn Varin , Julie Fogarty, Carolee Simmons, Amanda Bussolari, Steve Cole, Ryan Amtmann , Will Gunn, Dawn Day, Andrew Buttolph, Barbara Noyes, Emelia Fleck

Peter Gulick called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

* February minutes were accepted
* Student and faculty survey results were passed out to the committee
* 600 students responded
* ¾ of faculty responded
* Peter explained the process of collecting data and organized the survey
* The committee was asked to break into groups to digest the survey responses
* Bruce suggested that we discuss the results as a group
* The committee agreed to discussing the results as a group
* Deborah asked if the faculty responded to the survey with courses they wished to teach
* Peter stated that they responded with what they thought would be beneficial and interesting for students
* Peter asked the committee if anything in particular jumped out as interesting from the survey
* Bruce stated that Astronomy stood out to him and that he would be very interested and willing put to the course forth to the PRHS staff as a possible curriculum elective
* Bruce stated that world language also had a great response from both students and faculty
* Julie stated that early childhood education, nursing and cosmetology had a great deal of interest
* Peter suggested that the committee look at the jobs being offered, focus on the future
* There was a lot of focus on hands-on classes such as metals and building trades in the survey; are they the jobs of the future?
* Bruce stated that PRHS is developing a plan to move forward for 2014 with the state for a future 8 to 10 million dollar renovation for the voc-tech department
* 75% of the money for the renovations come from the state, 25% from the community
* Focus should be given to the future plan of the curriculum as well as what information needs to be collected within the next year (do we expand and renovate marketing and culinary?)
* Peter stated that research conducted by the SCC is a guideline for the school board for recommendations
* Deborah stated that she teaches marketing and research and they have found that students do not know what they want
* Focus on where the economy is moving, where the largest opportunities are
* Voters will give money to the school system if jobs are meeting the market
* The survey may have received a lot of ‘wacky’ suggestions
* Bruce stated that numbers generate
* Funding cannot be justified for a program if students are not signing up for the course (example: building trades)
* We need to explore what students really want to study, where the interest is before we decide what the best possible situation is for spending the budget
* Deborah stated that courses such as coding are in huge demand
* Students need to be taught how to make their interest, such as gaming, into a career
* Carolee commented on the desire for reinstituting Early Childhood Education
* A drop in numbers was the driving force for ending the program
* A large number of students are volunteering at local elementary schools, with the special education department and at the park and rec
* Nanny’s in New York City are making up to $500,000 a year
* Dawn stated that students are more knowledgeable and interested in health and wellness
* Offering a health and wellness class ½ year and yoga and nutrition class ½ year
* Many students are interested in taking a health and wellness class in their senior year that focuses more on rent, money management and life skills for the ‘real world’
* Peter stated that students are very interested in reinstituting theater classes
* High number of students interested in dance
* Theater and dance could be incorporated together as two ½ year classes
* Ryan stated that Theater had the highest numbers with both the students and faculty
* Deborah suggested that the committee look into the theater program at PSU
* Piggy back on their program creating a bridge for classes such as theater and nursing
* Bruce stated that the he would like to re-introduce theater classes into the curriculum as an elective
* Students can only take acting 1 once, acting 2 once etc.
* Peter stated that more students have been interested in the Running Start Program for college credit
* Teachers must agree to run this course
* The districts provides the funding
* Bob stated that the enrolment at PRHS in 2005-2006 was 901 students, the current enrollment is now 653
* The high school has lost 200 students
* PRHS currently does not have the population to support programs
* Eventually the population will level out
* Bruce stated that the PRHS faculty could develop a plan to bring forward to the school board
* What kind of jobs are students interested in pursuing?
* Chris stated that perhaps a math computer course could be added to the curriculum
* Jordan was surprised at the survey results
* Global culture, two students were interested in Arabic, zero faculty members
* Bruce was surprised that more students did not show an interest in English electives
* Bob agreed with Deborah
* Students need to be given direction to make a driven choice
* The survey that was administered was a great starting off point but perhaps the committee would receive a better idea of what courses students are interested in if they were given well laid out options, for instance a top ten
* The committee should research what the future top jobs are going to be, where the interest is, what the financial implications are, where the market is
* Jordan agreed with Bob
* The survey would be more successful if practical options were given instead of a ‘fill in the blank’
* Bruce stated that the information collected by the committee will be passed on to the school board
* Peter asked the committee to think about possible topics and ideas for next year
* What direction does the committee want to go in
* Collect information and share ideas for the next meeting
* Further comments on the survey
* The committee voted to hold the last SCC meeting for the 2011-2012school year on May 7th
* All were in favor

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 PM

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday May 7th at 5:15 p.m at PRHS.