**SCC Meeting Minutes**

**June 3, 2013**

**PRHS Library**

Present: Julie Fogarty, Ryan Amtmann, Amey Bailey , Dawn Day, Doug Ross, Will Gunn, Barbra Noyes, Judi D’Aleo, Erin D’Aleo, Peter Gulick, Bruce Parsons, Bob Price, Patricia Rella, Allison Estes-Brown,, Emelia Fleck

* Peter Gulick called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.
* April Minutes were accepted
* Peter opened the floor for nominations
* Peter outlined the SCC Bylaws
* Nominations were cast and votes were taken
* Ryan Amtmann was voted in and accepted the position of chair
* Peter opened the floor for suggestions and discussion on next year’s topic
* Student ownership, pride and decision making
* Restructuring Academic Advisory
* It was suggested that both topics be rolled into one "topic" of Personalization of Academic Advisory to aid in increasing student ownership, pride in decision making and increasing student respect
* It was suggested that this would be an opportunity to look at the school theme next year , ‘Unity’, and build an Academic advisory that students are both proud of and benefit from that both meets the need of the NEASC and create a sense of school pride
* The question was asked “Why did the NEASC separate increasing student and Academic Advisory?
* It was first presented as a separate topic
* It was agreed that it should be rolled into one topic
* The report reflected that students should be involved in other decision making processes in areas that affect them directly other than within Academic Advisory
* It was suggested that committee could look at different Academic Advisory models at other schools
* Currently many students are not seeing the big picture
* Students are feeling like Academic Advisory meets too infrequently to achieve anything
* Students are under the impression that Academic Advisory is only about filling out surveys and writing about academic goals
* Academic Advisory was created so students would have a connection with a faculty member other than a guidance councilor
* The relationship seems forced
* Bruce stated that the Academic Advisory is extremely important to our school
* Academic advisory was started when the NEASC recommended that PRHS had a form of personalization
* Students have many major rolls within the school where they can express their recommendations for the student body including the SCC, Student Council, School Board and the Emergency Management Team
* The Student Council recommend to the School Board that an earned time lounge be placed in the library as well as having the President of the Freshman Class receiving an automatic bid to attend the American Presidency Class
* The SCC has not had a student representative from every class in a while
* It was suggested that when students vote for class representative that they also vote for a seat within the SCC
* The topic of scheduling arose
* PRHS had a 7 period day
* Faculty felt that this was too short of a time frame for classes to meet and accomplish substance
* Many schedules were researched and schools were visited by both faculty and students before choosing the current bock A/B schedule
* PRHS has found that lower level students and foreign languages need continuity while math and science need time
* If a snow day occurs it could happen that a class may not meet for 7 days
* The process for changing the schedule was monumental
* The schedule was changed 17 years ago
* It was re-visited 3 years ago as an SCC topic
* The research was never presented to the faculty
* The union voted on a possible schedule change ; the union does not represent the faculty
* The question was asked “Did the NEASC recommend scheduling as an issue to be addressed?”
* It came from faculty and students
* Algebra A and B and basic geometry have been introduced, meeting everyday and worth 2 credits
* This is not an ideal scenario
* It has had a positive effect on higher grade achievement
* It would be drastic for PRHS to go to a full 90 min/8 period day
* A combination schedule would work for everyone; still having blocks and meeting more often
* It was suggested that PRHS goes to a M W F/T TH schedule, T TH being lab days
* Student ownership was brought up again
* The issue is not that students do not have ownership but more that the students involved in rolls such as Student Council are not aware of what their roll actually is
* Students are focusing on what their class is involved in and what activities they need to prepare for such as Winter Carnival and are not looking at their role as being the reprehensive of their class and the school
* Students who attend meetings do not outwardly share the information with the student body
* Students write a report out of student council but not committees such as the SCC
* It was suggested that reports be written by students, complied and presented at Academic Advisory
* Bruce suggested that the SCC make a recommendation to the School Board that they take a look at Academic Advisory and restructure to include student ownership and what the program will look like
* The SCC would also include unity and respect into the discussion
* The topic of restructuring would also include discussing how often Academic Advisory meets ( some schools meet once a week or daily) and what is done within the meeting time frame
* The SCC voted to analyze, reassess and remodel the Academic Advisory process and answer the following questions; How to restructure the time? How to structure the time spent with the advisor?
* All were in favor
* It was suggested that a student officer from each class sit on the SCC board as a reprehensive
* The SCC will be inviting Anthony Cassarino to discuss ideas about involving students in the SCC and the voting process
* Judi D’Aleo offered to set up an SCC table during Mock Schedule night with information and email sign-up for parents
* Bruce puts information and an invitation for parents to become involved in the SCC every month in the Bobcat Beat
* The SCC agreed that they would also extend themselves to parents and invite involvement
* The SCC is open to everyone but only the members approved by the board are sanctioned to vote

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 pm

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 9th at 5:15 p.m in the PRHS Library.