

NGRHS School Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2013

1. Call to Order

Chairperson H. Gibson called the meeting to order SAC at 6:43pm. H. Gibson welcomed new members S. Demone and M. McDade

The following persons were present: Howard Gibson (*chairperson*), Steve McGill (*principal*), Joyce Veinot-Gates (*vice principal*), Sandra Joudrey (*teacher*), Sherrene Delaney (*teacher*), Margot McDade (*support staff representative*), Sally Demone (*parent representative*), Brian Daniels (*student council president*), Austin Woodworth (*student representative*).

The following persons send their regrets: Eva Cook (*parent representative*), Woodworth (*parent representative*), Andrea Whalen (*parent representative*)

2. Approval of the agenda

- Quorum is not met tonight but it was agreed upon to continue on with the scheduled meeting.
- Agenda item #8 (student concerns) will be moved up to #5 on our agenda so that the students can leave for the dance.

3. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Correct numerous spelling mistakes

4. Matters Arising from last meeting's Minutes

None

5. Student Concerns

- a) Fundraising Elementary Dance: Friday November 15th, grades 5-7. Student Council will be using this as a fundraiser. Elementary schools will be contacted.
- b) Magician: we will have a magician come to our school. Student Council Vice President is organizing this.
- c) Fundraising Bingo – Student's Council has begun the preliminary planning stages. Date is yet to be determined. It was suggested that Student's Council consider different ideas for prizes than have been used before.

d) Spirit Week this week. The theme days were well received.

6. Correspondence

No direct correspondence

7. Principal's Report

There was no newsletter to review this meeting.

- a) The first embedded time day was last week. It was supposed to be 90 minutes but the buses were late so the PD time was shortened. S. McGill will look into the bussing issue. Stephen Jamieson presented at the first embedded time day to discuss the school goals (writing and student engagement). These 2 goals will be the focus of the PD for these days. The students operate on a condensed schedule for that day; they still have all of their 5 periods, but on a smaller scale than a regular day. There will also be networking opportunities for staff. There are 14 of these days throughout the year.
 - a. A question was brought forth regarding the writing goal. With our school's current move toward a 1-1 technology ratio, it was asked if our student's writing (cursive writing) skills will suffer. The question asked if the school would also be working on writing, without technology, as a part of the work for this goal. S. McGill said that this question would be taken into consideration while planning the work for the CSI goals.
 - b) School Board Administrators were asked to nominate principals, within their boards, who have made a real difference in student achievement for their school. S. McGill's name was put forth for this and he was selected to work on this project. The project will feature 6 principals from the province in a film that celebrates exceptional school administrators. A film crew will be coming to our school on Monday to document the success that S. McGill has had in our school with specific students. This is quite an honour.
 - c) Suspension Data Released Article from the Bridgewater Bulletin: NGRHS was mentioned in an article in The Bridgewater Bulletin this week as having more suspensions than normal. The SAC is not concerned about the data, but they are concerned about the way that this article reflects upon our school.
 - d) Extracurricular:
 - i. Quebec Trip – the enrolment is now at it's max with 50 and a waiting list has been started
 - ii. Europe Trip – the enrolment is at 8 (2 from Liverpool)

- iii. Soccer teams and Volleyball teams are doing well. Our soccer teams are at the top of their leagues
- iv. Hockey: we have ice time booked for junior and seniors for pick-up hockey. We do not have enough to put together a team so we have decided to offer this. H. Gibson would like to talk about the SAC possibly covering the left over costs of hockey at the next meeting when quorum it met

8. Committee Reports

- a) Discipline – nothing to report.

9. Any Other Business

- a) A question was brought forth regarding playing time on one of our school sport's teams. It is felt that every player pays the same team fees; therefore all players should have equal playing time. S. Joudrey (NGRHS Athletic Director) explained that equal playing time is not the policy that the NSSAF supports, they promote fair play. It was agreed among the members of the SAC that correspondence between the coach and parent is the most important factor that will help this matter. It was suggested that our school institute that it be mandatory that each sport teams at NGRHS has a mandatory parent/coach/player meeting at the start of each team's season to ensure that the lines of communications between coach and home are open. Currently, all coaches must take the NSSAF course, Keeping School in School Sports, which ensures that all coaches are aware of the NSSAF guiding principals. It was decided that that all coaches should be strongly urged to have parent/coach/player meetings. S. Joudrey will pass this information along to coaches.

10. Adjournment

Chairperson H. Gibson adjourned the meeting at 7:34

Next Meeting date: November 21, 2013 6:30pm in the NGRHS Library

Minutes submitted by: S. Delaney