

NGRHS School Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

September 24, 2015

1. Call to Order

E. Cook called the meeting to order at 6:47pm.

The following persons were present: Steve McGill, Sandra Joudrey, Sherrene Delaney, Sally Demone, Eva Cook, Larry Burgoyne, Jennifer McMullen, Krista Emino, Howard Gibson

The following person sends their regrets: Andrea Whalen, Kaylee Hyson

2. Approval of the agenda

Elections are to be added to the agenda

MOTION: Moved by, H. Gibson, seconded by L. Burgoyne to approve the agenda with the changes mentioned above. **CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

This was done after the May meeting via email correspondence

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

none

5. Financial Report

The balance in our account was \$1200 as of June 2015. We have no yet received our 2015/2016 allotment from the School Board.

6. Correspondence

S. McGill received an email from the Roxanne Naugler from the SSRSB letting us know that there will be a New Germany Family of Schools SAC's meeting at NGRHS on October 5th at 7:00pm. The purpose of the meeting will be to

present the draft catchment area policy.

7. Chair Report

nothing to report

8. Principal's Report

8.1 Enrolment

Student enrolment has gone up from 313 students last year, to 361 this year (as of today).

8.2 Summer Projects

We were allotted approximately \$260000 for school projects. We have had a new oil tank installed above ground (the old one was below ground). There is also a new walkway out back by the new oil tank leading down to the cafeteria back door. The windows in the stairwells were not replaced because the cost was more than expected. The brickwork at the front of the school is being repaired and we are getting a new 16' metallic blue New Germany Rural High School sign (within the next month). The heaters in front of the main entrance (in the lobby) will be replaced within the next few months. A new alarm system was installed and will be activated within the next week or so.

8.3 Continuous School Improvement Goals

This is the last year for our current school improvement goals. With our first goal of increasing intellectual engagement, we are currently above the board and national average (according to the results from the Tell Them From Me Surveys). Our second goal is to increase our personal and persuasive writing from grades 7-12. This goal is being measured by administering common writing tasks in each grade at the beginning and ending of each course. This goal has also shown improvement from the beginning of this process. A more detailed explanation of our goals and our schools accomplishments can be found on our website in the school's annual report. In June, we will be looking to create two new goals for the 2016/2015 school year.

8.4 Audit

Our school's finances were audited last year and one of the recommendations from this audit is that our school have an Audit Committee. The role of this committee is to review the monthly report of the school's finances each month. The members of our school's committee are three of our mathematics teachers:

Carmen Woodworth, Amy McCallion and Nicole Gosling. E. Cook suggested that this report also be brought to the SAC meetings. S. McGill said he would take care of that.

8.5 Cafeteria

Administration met with the school board's nutritionist and reviewed our cafeteria menu. There will be a new nutrition policy introduced to all schools in the board in the near future and we decided to make a few changes to our cafeteria menu at the beginning of this school year to begin the transition to the new policy. The cafeteria has not seen a decrease in sales as a result of these changes. There are still more changes to be made when the new policy is implemented.

8.6 Staffing

We have two new staff members: Janna Graham who is teaching the 20% English Language Arts position (Chris Wentzell's job share) and we have a new library technician, Mary Wagner.

8.7 Buses

Administration had a meeting with bus drivers earlier in the week to discuss the drop off and pick up of students to our school. There were a few recommendations made that will help make these times safe for everyone: 1) take away 1 parking spot at the top of the driveway to give the buses more room, 2) repaint the crosswalk, 3) create a barrier with boulders to prevent people from driving around the buses (between the soccer field and the buses).

8.8. Library

Mary Wagner made a request to the New Germany Lion's Club for a donation to our library and today we found out that we have received \$500.

8.9 New Course and Classes

As mentioned last year, Yoga 11 is being offered this year (it satisfies the Physical Education credit). We have two courses running all year and both are full. Project-Based Learning is no longer a course (funding was cut at the board level). Technology Education 9 is also a new course for all grade 9's. There are new reporting periods for junior high; they only have three reporting periods now instead of four. The seniors will still have four reporting periods.

8.10 Extra Curricular

We have four soccer teams up and running (junior girls, junior boys, senior

girls and senior boys) and all are doing really well. The junior girls and senior girls volleyball teams are up and running and tryouts for a boys senior team (grade 9-12) start tonight. Junior and Senior bands are in full swing and many school committees are starting up. It was expressed by L. Burgoyne that having both soccer and volleyball tryouts for girls at the same time this September was difficult. S. Delaney said that she would ensure that tryouts next year for volleyball would not happen until the soccer teams were up and running.

8.11 New Provincial Code of Conduct

The new Provincial Code of Conduct is now in effect. A significant change in the code that relates to SAC is that Principals now have the ability to issue a suspension that can last up to 10 days without consulting the SAC.

8.12 International Students

We currently have twenty international students at our school from twelve different countries from around the world (we are waiting for one more to arrive). Ten of these students are here for the full academic year and the others are here for a variety of months. Two of these students will be graduating from our school this year. We have also been given teacher time to have an English as an Additional Language teacher. Mike O'Hearon is teaching this class. Our International Student Ambassadors are Michelle Walters and Drew Whalen. They attended a training session in Truro this summer with E. Cook.

8.13 Academic Awards Night

Academic Awards Night was last night and it was very well received. Approximately a third of our student population received an award that night and there was great attendance.

9. Committee Reports

nothing to report

10. Student Updates

Student representatives will be at the next meeting to give their reports.

11. New Business

11.1 School Advisory Council New Members

Krista Emينو joins us as a support staff representative, Eva Cook returns in a new role as our community representative, Kaylee Hyson, Student Council President) is our new senior high representative. The remainder of our members are returning.

We are currently looking for a junior high representative and a parent representative. It was advertised that we had a position for a parent representative and no one expressed interest. The group discussed some possible representatives.

12. Elections

This year we need to elect a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson and a Secretary.

Chairperson: S. Demone nominated L. Burgoyne. S. Joudrey nominated E. Cook – both accepted their nominations. There was a vote via secret ballot and E. Cook was named Chairperson.

Vice Chairperson: S. Joudrey nominated L. Burgoyne for Vice Chairperson and he accepted and became the new Vice Chairperson by acclamation.

Secretary: S. Joudrey nominated S. Delaney for secretary. S. Delaney accepted and returned as Secretary by acclamation.

13. Adjournment

H.Gibson moved to adjourned the meeting at 8:03pm. S. Demone seconded it.

Next Meeting Tuesday October 15th @ 6:30pm in the library.

Minutes submitted by: S. Delaney