

School Governance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: October 25, 2011 Time: 6:00-8:00 Location: Main Conference Room

Attendance:

Present

Principal

Dr. Louis Padua

Parents

Kim Quinones

Maria Garcia

Amy DeSantis

Margaret Rocco

Silvia Freeland

Teachers

Mike Sullivan

Marines Wilson

Ryan Vassar

Crystal Caouette

Matthew Corcoran

Not Present

Raven Betancourt

Vernail Walker

Dr. Padua, Opening Remarks

- Should the board allow for a parent observer to sit in on current meeting?
- Need member to keep minutes for current meeting
- Need member to facilitate next meeting
- Need to decide on meeting times and dates
- Select Agenda Items for next meeting

Introductions

Dr. Louis Padua

Principal of Crosby High School

Kim Quinones

Parent of 9th grader

Youth Services Coordinator, Middletown

Matthew Corcoran

English Teacher

Marines Wilson

SPED Dept. Chair

Parent of WPS student

Mike Sullivan

Social Studies Teacher

Soccer Coach

Amy DeSantis

Parent of four at CHS

Parent Liaison at Generali
Margaret Rocco
Parent of four CHS students, two current
Parent Liaison at Wendel Cross
Crystal Caouette
Science Teacher
Silvia Freeland
Parent of CHS student
Nurse at Bucks Hill Nursing Home
Member of board for CERC
Ryan Vassar
Former student
Science Teacher
Real Estate Broker / business owner
Maria Garcia
Grandparent of CHS student
PAL Volunteer
PTA member Kingsbury

Discussion of opening meeting to parent observer

- Parent interested in attending meeting as a non voting observer
- Procedure for having an alternate raised – **Tabled until discussion of bylaws**
- Procedure for replacing member who leaves Council questioned -- **will refer to law in discussion of bylaws**
- Discussion of opening meetings to any interested member of school community: teachers / parents
- Discussion of opening meetings to general public including members of the press -- **tabled until discussion of bylaws**
- Mr. Vassar introduced motion to allow interested parent into current meeting
 - Ms. Wilson Seconded
 - **Unanimous vote in favor**

Discussion of Future Structure of Council and Meetings

- Using set leaders and Robert's Rules of Order raised
- **Council decided to read CABE's Outline of Sample Bylaws before the next meeting in order to make an informed decision**

Mr. Vassar distributed research to be reviewed for next meeting

Selection of Student representatives

- Two representatives are needed, non voting
- Corcoran proposes class representation (1 upper class, one under class)
- Wilson proposes gender representation
- Vassar proposes open elections, not class or gender mandates
- In the end, **majority vote in favor of class representation, not gender**

- Process of recruiting student representatives
 - Mr. Vassar proposed morning announcements and use of advisory period
 - Ms. Wilson proposed a common script to be used in advisory
 - Voting to be done during advisory
 - Ms. Garcia raises question of academic criteria for students
 - Ms. Quinones argued against it, others agree
 - Generally agreed that,
 - Wilson and Corcoran will create a form and information sheet for students to be sent to Council members for feedback by 10/31.
 - Flyers and forms will be distributed on 11/4.
 - Nominations will be collected by Mr. Sullivan by 11/14
 - Elections for students will be conducted on 11/18
 - 11th and 12th graders will vote for one from 11th and 12th grade class
 - 9th and 10th graders will vote for one from 9th and 10th grade class

Community Leader Representatives

- Mr. Vassar proposes using Channel 16 and the WPS website to solicit involvement from community leaders
- Ms. Rocco and Ms. DeSantis suggest current Council members directly solicit volunteers from the community, consult with parent liaisons from feeder schools
- Wilson and Corcoran will modify informative pamphlet and draft a letter for nominees
- Interested nominees will write a brief description of
 - 1) Who they are, and
 - 2) Why they want to be on the committee
- Nomination material will be delivered to Council members by 11/4
- Completed nominations are due by 11/18

Training for Council through CABA (Connecticut Association of Boards of Education)

Dr. Padua distributed brochures and reviewed meeting dates.

Dates: Dec. 4, Jan. 17, Feb. 16

Structure of future meetings

- Mr. Vassar motioned: Decisions will be made with majority vote
 - All voted in favor except Corcoran, who abstained
- Future meeting will be held on Wednesdays at 4:00 unless the Council agrees on modifications.
- Council set dates for next three meetings on Nov. 30
- Ms. Quinones nominated Mr. Corcoran to take minutes for next meeting. Ms. Wilson seconded. **Unanimous vote in favor.**

- Mr. Corcoran nominated Ms. Caouette to facilitate next meeting. Ms. DeSantis seconded. **Unanimous vote in favor.**

Agenda items for next meeting

- Dr. Padua offered to present data to Council – Council decided to wait until bylaws are established and full Council is present
- Student Introductions - 5min.
- Roberts' Rules – 10min.
- Review nominations of community leaders and vote – 30min
- Bylaws – 60min.
- Deciding dates and times for future meetings - 5min
- Set agenda for next meeting – 10min