

School Governance Council Meeting Minutes

Date: November 30, 2011 Time: 4:00-6:00 Location: Crosby Media Center

Attendance:

Present

Principal

Dr. Louis Padua

Parents

Raven Bentacourt

Maria Garcia

Amy DeSantis

Margaret Rocco

Teachers

Mike Sullivan

Ryan Vassar

Crystal Caouette

Matthew Corcoran

Not Present

Vernail Walker

Kim Quinones

Silvia Freeland

Marines Wilson

4:10 Call to Order
Roll Call (see above)

Issue: revise meeting agenda

Caouette: change Item 1, introduction of student representatives to Item 3,
discussion of student elections

Motion to revise agenda, Corcoran

2nd, DeSantis and others

Unanimous vote in favor

Issue: Accept minutes from 10/24/2011 meeting

Motion, Vassar

2nd, Rocco

Unanimous vote in favor

Issue, Using Robert's Rules of Order

Discussion:

Corcoran: appreciate the structure provided by Robert's Rules but would like to include a statement on understanding the spirit of the rules and being understanding of the unfamiliarity of them for many. Proposes adopting the rules with a sense of generosity to speakers, avoiding legalistic attempts to silence discussion.

Vassar, suggest using them as guidelines rather than rules.

Caouette: Concern over the SGC being a public forum, the need for structure to be effective and orderly

Motion to adopt Robert's Rules of Order, Corcoran

2nd, Vassar

Unanimous vote in favor

Issue: Electing student representatives.

Discussion, many members contribute to the following outline:

- 1) Email all staff regarding election of students on 12/1
- 2) Staff review pamphlet soliciting student nominations during advisory session on 12/2
- 3) Nominations require:
 - a. Signature of student
 - b. Signature of parent
 - c. Signatures of ten students endorsing nomination
 - d. 50 word statement describing why the student is interested
- 4) Mr. Sullivan receives nominations by Dec. 7, creates ballot
- 5) Student elections December 16th in advisory
- 6) Ms. Garcia to come to CHS to tally votes

Motion to adopt the procedure above, Corcoran

2nd, Vassar

Unanimous Vote in favor

Issue: Selecting community members

Discussion, most members received letter from Corcoran to solicit interest, but none were successful in getting commitments.

Rocco and DeSantis proposed accepting retired Judge Lawlor offer to assist partnering business and community leaders with schools for SGCs,

Motion to request Dr. Padua's assistance as well in soliciting nominations

2nd, Corcoran

Unanimous Vote in favor.

Issue: Creating bylaws for CHS SGC

Discussion, using "School Governance Council: Outline of Sample Bylaws" provided by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education. Working through articles I-IX of the sample outline making a few changes, selecting some alternate language, crafting some additional language. Revision of articles I-VII is attached.

Motion to adopt Articles I-VIII as discussed, Corcoran

2nd, Rocco and Sullivan

Unanimous vote in favor

Issue: Scheduling of future meetings

Discussed: Dec 20 shortened meeting 4:00pm-5:00pm

Jan. 10

Feb. 7

Mar. 13

Agenda for Dec. 20 meeting

- 1) Review and approve minutes from Nov. 30 meeting
- 2) Complete Bylaws
- 3) Student Elections
- 4) Community Representatives
- 5) Absent members (if necessary)

Officers: keep Caouette as acting chair

Motion for above, Vassar
2nd, DeSantis, others
Unanimous vote in favor

Motion to adjourn, Caouette
2nd, Vassar
Unanimous vote in favor