

# WATERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Meeting Minutes

<b>Group/Team:</b>	Crosby High School - School Governance Council		
<b>Location:</b>	Library Media Center	<b>Norms Reviewed:</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>yes</b> <input type="checkbox"/> no
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	March 31, 2015	<b>Start Time:</b>	6:30
<b>Minutes Prepared By:</b>	Richard Pecka	<b>Finish Time:</b>	7:28

### Attendance at Meeting (list all team members present or not and guests)

	Name	Position	Signature
1	Jade L. Gopie	Principal	Present
2	Paul Whyte	Supervisor of Turnaround	Present
3	Ira Caplan	Teacher	Present
4	Richard Pecka	Teacher	Present
5	Paula DeSantis	Teacher	Present
6	Kelly Donohue	Teacher	Present
7	Dana Forino	Teacher	Present
8	Korena Graffam	Teacher	Present
9	Kerry Coyle	Teacher	Present
10	Vernial Walker	Family Resource Coordinator	Present
11	Simona Carter	Parent	Present
12	Tony Santos	Community-Business Owner	Absent
13	Melitza Velez	Community-CJR	Present
14	Heather Rodriguez	Parent	Present
15	Cheryl Gatling	Parent	Absent
16	Brittany Parker	Student	Absent
17	Tesi'ah Lawrence	Student	Absent
18	Imani Booker-Youngs	Student	Absent
19	Jamie Deltoro	Student	Absent
20	Debra Mills	Parent	Absent

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### Meeting Notes, Decisions, Issues

I. **Attendance/Introductions:** See Above

II. **Review of Minutes:** Minutes from the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting were read and accepted without change.

### III. Crosby High School Turnaround Initiatives

- Ms. Gopie reviewed several turnaround initiatives, clarifying that Crosby is receiving additional support and resources to aide in changing the structure of the school.
- Freshmen Academy will be located towards the back of the building on the second floor, and have designated teachers, administrators, guidance counselors, and a social worker.
- Math and English intervention will be available along with mandatory technology in the classroom. 1-to-1 technology will be available for students, who will have access to their own laptops.
- Crosby has partnered with Project GRAD and New Tech Networks to help freshmen teachers; focus will be on Project-Based Learning. (PBL)
- School uniforms will be going district wide per the B.O.E. Crosby will be running focus groups for both students and parents to receive input regarding colors, options, etc.
- Mr. Whyte stated that the district is looking at two options: one district color, one school color. It is already set in the budget that every student will be outfitted with his or her first shirt. Short sleeve polo is \$13, long sleeve is \$16. A winter fleece will also be available.
- Shirts will be provided by local vendors, although there will be some stock on hand.
- This initiative has been set in place to allow teachers to spend less time focusing on dress code, so they may devote time to other areas.
- Mr. Caplan asked if immediate consequences would be in place once initiated, and reinforced that all teachers should be held accountable for enforcing this code.
- Ms. Carter noted that a school uniform is a positive shift, as there are even issues with dress code at the elementary level in the district. She suggested that terms be reinforced with parents far in advance to clarify the rationale, and avoid potential resistance.
- There was some discussion regarding the color of pants. (Khakis and black.) Ms. Coyle noted that the uniform policy could be clarified to strike out leggings, track pants, etc., as many of these options come in black.
- Mr. Whyte and Ms. Gopie noted that to date, there have been 1,326 dress code infractions that have been addressed across the high schools

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- Ms. Gopie asked for suggestions on what mediums could be used to inform parents. Crosby is already looking at local community/rec centers. Ms. Carter suggested looking into other community outlets not currently used, including the YMCA, Grandville Academy, and Gear Up.
- Ms. Gopie discussed the Walk for Success, which will be on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. This is a voluntary event, requiring 100 volunteers. Volunteers will meet at Crosby at 8:00 AM, and visit the homes of incoming freshmen in groups of 3-5 people. Each group will visit 10 homes to introduce themselves and provide information on Crosby High School, as well as surveys for parents. These are specific addresses in pre-determined areas. Families will receive four notifications prior to May 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. White also noted that a team will be present at Crosby for any parents who would rather not have visitors at their homes.
- The survey will be used to generate activities and programming for parents to see how Crosby can meet their needs.

#### IV. Questions and Answers

- Ms. Coyle asked if there was any focus within turnaround for the students in grades 10-12. Mr. Whyte stated that we will be phasing in changes for those students, as well as looking closely at the overage, under-credited population. This is defined as any student over the age of 16 with less than 4 credits, or any student over the age of 17 with less than 10 credits. Right now, there are approximately 400 students at Crosby who fit this definition. We will be looking at what can be done for them in term of next steps. Many incoming 8<sup>th</sup> graders arrive at Crosby already at a disadvantage, and they will be looked at as well.
- Ms. Donohue asked if PBL initiatives for 9<sup>th</sup> grade will flow into the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Ms. Gopie clarified that it would, and that teachers would also receive training and PD on the subject.

**V. Next Meeting:** Next meeting will be held Tuesday night, April 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Library.

Ms. Gopie adjourned the meeting at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Rick Pecka

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## Meeting Minutes

Next Steps (Include action items)		
Action	Assigned to	Due Date

Next Meeting					
<b>Date:</b>	4/28/15	<b>Time:</b>	6:30	<b>Location:</b>	Library Media Center
<b>Agenda:</b>					

### Meeting Minutes guidelines:

- Publish Minutes within 48 hours of any meeting
- Minutes available to all stakeholders (e.g., binders, shared drive, e-mail, website)
- Send Minutes via email to all team members