

WATERBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Meeting Minutes

Group/Team:	Crosby High School - School Governance Council		
Location:	Library Media Center	Norms Reviewed:	<input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no
Date of Meeting:	May 26, 2015	Start Time:	6:50
Minutes Prepared By:	Richard Pecka	Finish Time:	7:40

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

	Name	Position	Signature
1	Jade L. Gopie	Principal	Absent
2	Paul Whyte	Supervisor of Turnaround	Absent
3	Ira Caplan	Teacher	Present
4	Richard Pecka	Teacher	Present
5	Paula DeSantis	Teacher	Present
6	Kelly Donohue	Teacher	Absent
7	Dana Forino	Teacher	Present
8	Korena Graffam	Teacher	Absent
9	Kerry Coyle	Teacher	Absent
10	Vernial Walker	Family Resource Coordinator	Absent
11	Simona Carter	Parent	Present
12	Tony Santos	Community-Business Owner	Absent
13	Melitza Velez	Community-CJR	Present
14	Heather Rodriguez	Parent	Absent
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. **Call to Order** – 6:50 PM.
- II. **Attendance** – See Above.
- III. **Review of Minutes** - Minutes were not available; will review at 6/2 meeting.
- IV. **School Compact Review**
 - Mr. Caplan provided copies of the compact examples Ms. Gopic provided at the previous meeting. He questioned if “literacy” should be the only technical academic mention in the Crosby compact.
 - Ms. DeSantis noted that the compact should reflect the specific goals of the Turnaround initiative. Language about literacy has been built into Waterbury Public Schools’ literature since approximately 2000.
 - Some clarification was requested regarding policies on parent-school interactions and programs. (Parent mentoring, FAFSA, etc.)
 - Ms. Carter noted that she has not noticed much information coming home in a physical form. It was noted that much of this is on the Waterbury Public Schools website. Ms. Carter remarked that other schools she’s worked with seem to send more home.
 - Mr. Pecka suggested a seminar to educate parents on navigating the Waterbury Public Schools/Crosby website for schedules, updates, and potentially building an email list for outgoing communications.
 - Ms. Carter suggested peer-to-peer mentoring for parents regarding best practices and positive reinforcements with their children.
 - Mr. Pecka suggested that the compact would be a good resource to provide in the Walk for Success next year if it happens. Ms. DeSantis added that it would be good material to provide for Freshmen Orientation in August. The key is getting it to parents and educating them.
 - Ms. Velez suggested some sort of raffle or incentive for parents as a means to draw them to a meeting, though we do not know if there are any legal prohibitions preventing us from doing so.
 - Ms. Carter questioned the issues we might encounter with parents who struggle with literacy themselves. This raised questions about dealing with parents who speak other languages. (Spanish, Albanian.)
 - Ms. DeSantis felt it was critical to focus on parents of freshmen and sophomores. Mr. Pecka echoed these comments, noting that the first two years are critical, and that programs such as Gear Up are already trying to educate freshmen on what can be done to earn the credit they need. Perhaps it could connect to the overage/under-credited initiative.
 - Ms. DeSantis felt that we should also focus on educating parents and students on ProgressBook.

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- Ms. Carter felt that there should also be a focus on families of students whose attendance is at risk; we should try to promote positivity by inviting families to events such as games and plays.
- The members concluded by summarizing that whatever language is ultimately selected for the compact, a way needs to be found to bring parents to the school where they can be introduced to/educated on the compact. This should be reinforced throughout the year through multiple events, outlets, community organizations (CJR, YMCA, Waterbury Youth Center), and other local operations.

V. **Meeting Adjournment** – 7:45 PM. Next meeting: Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:30 PM in the Library Media Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Richard Pecka

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

Next Meeting					
Date:	6/2/15	Time:	6:30	Location:	Library Media Center
Agenda:	School Compact (Continued)				

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