

School Council Agenda

December 14, 2017

Courtyard Room

5:30 pm

1. Call to Order 5:35 pm

Present – Tara Bennett, Sue Tarallo, Patsy DiDomenica, Roger Desrosiers, MaKayla Davis, Troy Cami, Dominic Beyer, Chris Beyer, Ty Parsons, Laura Cummings

2. Public Comment – None

3. Approval of Minutes from 11/15/2017 - Approved

4. FY19 Budget Update

- Before Thanksgiving met with central office
- Met as central office team first week of December to prioritize
- Town Manager supports our schools however there will be a focus on town projects (i.e. roads) that have not been a focus the last few years
- The budget we submit is to be level service – we may not receive any additional requests
- Top request – Special Ed teacher for mandating services and reallocation for co-teaching
- Bring 0.6 FL to full time and school adjustment counselor – not being considered right now
- Hoping the top request at each school will be approved
- We have gone back to Department Heads to see what can be trimmed down while still preserving our programs for our students
- There are some supplies we have been able to purchase this year that were asked for originally in next year's budget with extra money that was leftover
- Looking to neighbor schools to share/borrow items – for examples the authentic babies for Child Growth and Development
- Donors Choose – website where educators can put forth a project and request money to fund it; Often times big companies/foundations will donate the money in support of the project
- As a team, meeting will be next week for moving forward with budget to present to School Committee. Hoping budget will meet contractual needs as well as the additional three positions, one at each school.
- We are still looking to add the AP Government course next year. Ceramics course will not be added next school year
- High school art teacher will be retiring in November of 2018. We are hoping new art teacher will be able to start at beginning of school year for a smooth transition.
- Budget is not just looked at as year to year, also look at longevity for years to come
- We are still in a good place in relation to other towns with our budget
- We still don't have user fees for athletics!

5. NEASC

a. Rubric Update

- Steering Committee met 12/13 about the rubric rollout for third quarter
- Presentation Staff about rubric in January during PLC time and Interdisciplinary Meeting for a more formal rollout

- Teachers are looking for guidance – maybe a master PowerPoint presentation that can be used during CDS to present rubrics to students
 - Looking to create schedule for this before holiday vacation
 - January meeting, we will have timeline ready
- b. Standards Update
- There are 7 standards, each with committees, for NEASC
 - The Endicott Survey was given to parents, students, and staff
 - Sue Tarallo came up with a summary for each standard to provide data for the committees to use when writing their executive summary
 - Looking at trends, comparing to an aggregate, to see where we are at in relation to schools similar to ours
 - Standard 7 was presented at December faculty meeting and approved. Now moving on to Standard 6.
- c. Endicott Survey – [Endicott Survey Results](#)
- The Endicott Survey is an opportunity for us to receive honest feedback from students, staff, and parents to reflect on our strengths and weaknesses
 - Overview comes back in two forms – the results for our school and the results for the aggregate
 - We had a total of 910 respondents – 666 students, 74 staff, and 170 parents
 - Options for responses we strongly agree, agree, disagree, strongly disagree and undecided (also an option for don't know)
 - Responses of don't know were not counted
 - Responses of strongly agree and agree were counted together and responses of strongly disagree and disagree were counted together
 - NEASC stresses 70% as our benchmark for what we should reach for total agreement
 - We can compare our results to the 70% benchmark or we can compare ourselves to the aggregate
 - Will this survey be done again once people become more familiar with what the expectations are? – At this time, we do not know
 - Why did we do it at the beginning of the year? At this time, some students and parents have no idea. Would it be more accurate if we waited until later in the year? – We wanted to have the data to use it in our reflections and so that every standards committee had the opportunity to use the survey results
 - Although it was required of staff and students to complete, we cannot require this of parents. The survey was sent out to all parents and parents then chose to respond – How valid are these results when they were collected using a voluntary response sample?
 - Examples of results from Benchmark Breakdown Spreadsheet - In Core Values & Beliefs there were 4 questions students were asked. Within that, 3 out of 4 questions were at or above the 70% benchmark. We are even with the aggregate on this. On curriculum, 4 out of 8 questions were at or above the 70% benchmark, which was above the aggregate by 12.5%, or one question.
 - Sub-Benchmark Commonalities Spreadsheet example - An area where we need improvement is with having a program in which there is an adult in the school that students meet with regularly

- CDS was new last year. We are keeping students with the same CDS teacher year-to-year to help address this.
- The document for each standard is extensive – Standard 7 was about 20 pages with an additional executive summary

6. Old Business - None

7. New Business

- Chromebooks – Conversations going on about potential one-to-one
- We will be purchasing a Chromebook laptop cart to use in a classroom as a pilot
- PD for teachers is high priority for how to use laptop as an instructional tool in the classroom
- Needs to be a thoughtful process in terms of the rollout as there are many advantages but also many fears in becoming one-on-one
- It is a disservice to the students if we are not exposing them to technology as we are trying to get them College and Career ready
- Device wise, one-on-one will support our needs for testing in the future
- Some of the newer Chromebooks have the Google store on them – we are working on the filtering process
- This would mean full responsibility on students to take care of these
- We are aware that some families don't have internet access
- This is not a funding request that is going to the town. Looking at how to transition technology budget into purchase of Chromebooks.
- Cost of Chromebook cart with 30 is about \$9900 – about 1/3 of what the laptop carts cost
- History & Social Studies revision of frameworks were somewhat released in November by DESE – there will be a civics thread from PreK – 12 and Grade 8 will now be a full-year Civics course. Rest of the frameworks will be released in January 2018 by DESE for feedback and public comment. In June 2018 recommendations will be voted on. Grades 6 & 7 are swapping with bits of Grade 8 put into the curriculum. Standards should be in full swing in 2020. At the high school 2 years of U.S. History and 2 years of World History.

8. Next School Council Meeting – January 18th 5:30 pm

9. Adjournment 6:48 pm

