

## Hamden High School

### School Governance Council Meeting Date: Monday, November 14, 2016

*Members: Tony Kaplan community leader, Robin Lamott Sparks parent, Kevin Keating teacher, Paul Giansanti vice principal, Paul Darcy parent, Kim Forselius Bielen parent, Christy Palumbo parent, Sherlet Kurian parent, Elisa James teacher Steven DelGrego teacher, Alicia Norris parent, Cate Marshall teacher (absent), Nadine Gannon Principal, Anna Lisa Aurora teacher (absent), John Hanna, social worker(guest) Mike Cebula teacher, Judith Goldberg (parent)*

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## Agenda

Public Comment and Approval of last month's minutes  
Traffic Issues  
Update on Facilities  
Communications Committee  
Update on Compact  
Review of Academic and Attendance Data  
Agenda Items for the Year

## November 14, 2016 Minutes

Taken by: Kim Bielen

### **6:00pm Approval of last month's Council minutes**

Minutes approved unanimously

### **6:07pm Traffic Issues**

Principal Gannon reviewed ongoing discussions being held in regards to school traffic:

1. Continue conversations with Frank and Mark regarding replacing large barriers being used in front of school to direct traffic. 2 types of barriers being considered (orange & black) to replace temporary ones.
2. Winter weather concerns in regards to snow placement and its effects on parking and traffic flow on HHS grounds.
3. Continue with Police directing traffic and having presence at school in morning. Feedback from parents, students and teachers has been positive and traffic flow much more efficient and safe.

#### **Follow-up**

1. Continue ongoing discussion about winter weather and its effect on traffic flow. Continue conversation on replacement of barriers.

### **6:14pm Update on Facilities**

Principal Gannon, Kevin Keating and Alicia Norris gave an update and comments on repair work at HHS:

1. Alicia Norris' classroom's temperature has been monitored routinely by maintenance supervisor (A301) reporting cold air circulating making it uncomfortable and distracting for students and teacher.
2. Kevin Keating commented on original heating and cooling system installed at HHS when renovations had occurred might be causing an irregularity and this could be a symptom from that irregular system. B wing second floor heating and cooling system most effected by irregularity and questioned is it being maintained properly?

2. Principal Gannon had suggested she would discuss with Mark Albanese and the HHS maintenance staff the issues regarding Alicia Norris's classroom and also the possible ability to adjust room temperature. Also to have all areas in school reporting poor air ventilation be accessed.

#### **Follow-up**

1. Plan: Mark Albanese and maintenance HHS staff to follow up with Principle about ventilation concerns. Also Robyn will follow up on status of Tracking system implementation between Facilities/Maintenance and HHS staff on repairs/ building concerns/issues. This project was to have taken place after the startup of PowerSchool which is now up and running. Tracking system startup date? Has tracking electronic system been chosen and purchased? Is IT on board?
2. Paul Giansanti reviewed telephone issues in HHS rooms:
  1. There has been a repair list generated that Principal Gannon, Frank and Joe have prioritized.
    - a. Telephones (2) need realignment
    - b. Safety concern that particular rooms have no telephone access (D3 311, A 221 and D3 309)

#### **Follow-up**

1. Paul Giansanti will continue to follow repair of these telephones and new lines to be connected and report back at next meeting

### **6:30pm            Committees**

#### **1. Bylaws Committee**

*Bylaws Committee members:* Robyn Sparks, Christy Palumbo, and Kim Bielen

\*Bylaws will be sent to Council to review before next meeting so vote can be set at 12/12/16 Council meeting.

#### **2. Marketing Committee**

*Marketing Committee members:* Principal Gannon, Christy Palumbo, Paul Giansanti, Alicia Norris and Kim Bielen, with assistance from Tom Dwyer, Athletic Director and Mark Albanese, Director of Facilities Board of Education.

\* The mission continues to have a LED sign in front of HHS. It was confirmed by Mark Albanese that there is no need for the Hamden historical society to approve placement of the sign in front of historical HHS. The next steps are the following:

- a. Marketing Committee to meet to finalize details with zoning board
- b. Get the Mayors endorsement
- c. Highlight school community and start fundraising for sign

#### **Follow-up**

1. Both committees to follow up on outstanding issues and report progression at next Council meeting.

### **6:45pm            Update on Compact Progress**

1. Alicia Norris discussed progress of School Compact. She suggested staff be involved with development of Compact and also to have parent and student input as well. The idea is that there isn't just one voice represented in the Compact but the entire school community has a part in creating it and this would allocate more accountability from the entire school community. Alicia has suggested to review the Compact in length at the 12/12/16 Council meeting

#### **Follow-up**

1. To present Compact at 12/12/16 Council meeting

### **6:48pm    NEASC Update**

1. Deadline for NEASC recommendations were 10/1 for HHS. Clarity of resolution issues, ventilation of building, 504, school rubrics.
2. What has been addressed thus far since report sent?
3. Discussion of idea of smaller group discussions in classrooms improving student participation to target reflective learners who typically develop ideas /questions in smaller dynamic settings.
4. Discussion regarding leveling learning? Establishment of effective classroom management systems?
5. Discussion about promoting Hamden public school's vs private schools in area
6. Discussion about strategies that help students reach their full potential in the classroom, procedures to be implemented in order to succeed in classroom.
7. Discussion on giving staff availability to have more professional development a Team meetings/student evaluations during the school week.

### **Follow-up**

1. What issues can/should be addressed from NEASC report can council make their goals/achievements for this Council year?