

Highland High School Community Council

Minutes March 12, 2008

Present: TeriLyn Baucom, Liz Diamond, Suzanne Hammond, Chris Jenson, Doug Johnson, Doug Jorgensen, Karen Hansen, Beau Hicken, Karla Keller, Uinise Langi, Robin Larson, Patricia Lawrence, Gretta Millett, Carolyn Nichols, Rob Price, Paul Schulte, Kristi Swett, Molly Welch, Laurel Young

WELCOME: TeriLyn Baucom, chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 am.

SCC SURVEY distributed to be completed and turned in today.

MINUTES of February meeting approved.

CONSENT AGENDA: "Oryantal Dansi Club" is the Belly Dancing Club, fundraiser approved.

Note made about all fundraisers: if quotas are given and participation is required, fee waivers would apply.

Trip: note, only 1 school day missed, all other in order. Approved.

SCC CONCERNS: Teri Lyn Baucom

District SCC Meeting Report: Let community know what Land Trust money goes to. Highland is doing this in newsletter and website. AB schedule letter was received and principals are also looking at this. We are not trying to dictate the schedule, there are just some problems with the one we have, so SCC is recommending it to the district. Trimester scheduling is not being discussed. Comment from the Board is that we must be open to lots of ideas. Boundary issue: Highland wants to be sure things are equalized.

Teacher & ESIS usage: Teachers are not using consistently with what is reported. Working on consistent grading. Please let administration know if grades are not being posted. Disclosure should let parents know how the teachers will be using it. Teachers do not always see what the parents see. John Caldwell will be showing the parent side at a faculty meeting so teachers will know what the parents see. Some computers will have a hard time accessing details. Inservice will be done at faculty meetings also. Handout about ESIS would be helpful at Parent Teacher Conference. Lots of parents have no access to computers so midterms are still mailed. Assistance is available in the library and counseling center. Will advertise in PTSA newsletter.

SCC Elections: All elected. Joe Henderson is new, out-of-district representative. Are we representative of the community? Not as good as we could be. Booth at registration will try to recruit parents from underrepresented areas, especially more from the Latino community.

Foundation Yard Sale April 12, drop off every Saturday 8-10am. There will also be food for sale that day.

SIC REPORT: Molly Welch

IB Committee: Felt we don't know what is expected from committee. Additional teachers have volunteered. Committee will put info together and present at faculty meeting in April and May. Vote in May meeting whether faculty would like to pursue IB so teachers can be trained this summer. Sue Hardy was recommended as a parent for the committee. Paul Schulte was running the committee but felt he should step back so faculty did not feel administrative pressure. Linda Richins will be the administrator over the IB program, so some felt she should head the committee. Faculty was mostly concerned over funding: some is in place now, but SIC wants to be sure it is presented well to the faculty. PTSA and parents asked that Paul Schulte and Linda Richins act as co-chairs for the IB information gathering committee. Paul has a list of parents who would like to be on the committee.

Citizenship: Citizenship grades do not need to be marked on report cards, but teachers are asked to use the comment codes.

STUDENT UPDATE: Beau Hicken This week is Spirit Week. All parents are invited to the assembly on Friday, 9:00-noon in the Main Gym. Elections for SBO and class officers will take place in April. Candidates will need to obtain proof of citizenship from teachers and have less than 16 unexcused absences (class periods). Spring Prom is April 19; a location is yet to be decided. Pat Lawrence asked if, during an assembly before Prom, dresses from Ram Boutique could be modeled so students will know that dresses and tuxes are available. Pat also asked if there was a way SBO's could promote respect of **all** classes' decorations during Sprit Week

ADMINISTRATION REPORT: Paul Schulte

SIP Paul handed out the rough draft of the School Improvement Plan. The District is using a new template which aligns with the Northwest Accreditation process. It lists 4 DRSLs (Desired Result of Student Learning) which Highland's plan is addressing. Highland will implement Algebra A and B classes to help ESL students with elementary algebra. Each department is working on goals (page 6). To address climate survey (page 8), there will be an increase in peer observations and a report from the Community of Caring after they attend a June conference. Any question on the SIP should be emailed to Paul.

Trust Lands Paul is proposing that Trust Lands money be used for personnel. It would continue staffing for the Freshman (and possibly Sophomore) Success Team and increase staffing for AP classes which have been held in the past but are not currently being taught.

Technology John Caldwell is updating the Highland web site and including a virtual tour of the Spirit Week decorations (find it under "What's Happening at Highland"). Five teachers are using MP3 players to record lessons for absent students. There are 5 more players available for interested teachers. Math dept. is using tech money for Smart Boards to record lectures and visuals.

Chris Jenson:

Plan-to-Plan Chris handed out an up dated Plan-to-Plan which added the debate trips and girls basketball trips to San Diego and St. George. There was some concern about the Softball Hawaii trip and distance, supervision, school days missed, but Chris pointed out that each trip still will have to have approval from SIC and SCC. Rob Price motioned to approve Plan-to-Plan, seconded by Carolyn Nichols. All approved.

Attendance Committee Chris is compiling an email list of all who wanted to be on the committee and will start meetings soon.

PTSA Robin Larson The PTA Board is concerned about the lack of custodial care and the litter inside and outside the building. They have drafted a talking points letter to the District and will also sponsor a school-wide clean-up on April 26. Administration is currently hiring a new Head Custodian, evaluating the District-wide "team cleaning" approach, and using students serving detention to clean up outside. It was noted that students are a big part of the problem and clubs and SBO's could help with "adopting an area" and more service oriented work.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 am.

Respectfully submitted, Liz Diamond and Suzanne Hammond