

Highland High School Community Council

Minutes January 9, 2008

Present: TeriLyn Baucom, Rebecca Bennion, Ruth Campbell, Jose Corea, Kareen Corea, Liz Diamond, Suzanne Hammond, Karen Hansen, Chris Jenson, Karla Keller, Robin Larson, Patricia Lawrence, Carolyn Nichols, Chris Nielson, Paul Schulte, Diane Spencer, Molly Welch

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

Minutes of December meeting approved after clarification on stipends for coaches. The new girls' basketball coach had already been approved for extra days. Motion to approve by Carolyn Nichols; second by Karen Hansen.

Note was made that the game behavior rules stated in the December minutes were not being followed and we will discuss game behavior later in this meeting.

Consent Agenda: Debate Trip January 18-21, Henderson NV for 8-12 students (was on Plan-to-plan). Add Debate Trip for 1 person. Both approved.

Two trips will need to be approved next time, SIC will have time to review.

Note that Basketball has turned in their fundraiser report for poster sales.

SCC CONCERNS: Teri Lyn Baucom

Programs for underachieving students: issue that Unise Langi would like addressed. This would include interventions, encouraging harder classes, etc. Mr. Schulte is open to suggestions and would like a committee to discuss. Sub-committee sign-up was passed around. This committee would focus on under-represented student populations. This will be discussed in COW and SIP. Paul will head this committee.

COW- Committee of the Whole- This is a great meeting to hear what teachers are doing. Technology, focus on outreach to the community and to help all students.

Texting in Class is an issue that is a constant battle, students are always asked to put phones away. Problem is really with inappropriate use such as bad pictures and messages. Parents indicated that they want to be able to reach students. Students and parents need to be educated to be appropriate. Teachers want to know why cell phones in class would be okay. It was agreed to have something in a newsletter article to notify parents what the cell phone policy is and how it interrupts class. Also agreed that the attendance office needs to be more able to get messages, notes, and deliveries to students so that parents do not feel the need to text them during school.

Game Behavior: Issue raised by several parents. It seems to some that the discipline is arbitrary. Administration feels student behavior is chaotic with inappropriate chants and language. They could have dismissed more than 50 students at the last game. Some that were asked to leave did not. At the Olympus game, where there were no hall cameras, groups of Highland students were chanting and swearing in the halls on the way out. Plenty of administrators were there but students must sit on the same side at Olympus. Problems occurred in the parking lot. An officer actually warned students about fighting and then watched a fight start. Chris Jenson is very concerned. Paul is open to suggestions. A committee will be formed to define rules and consequences. Students are bullying other students, will not sing the school song, will not cheer with cheerleaders. Administrators cannot control them anymore and would like parents' help. A suggestion was made to videotape the crowd but we are not sure that is legal. The heart of the issue is educating students on appropriate school spirit vs. what is inappropriate/ sexual harassment/ bullying. Recognized that some heckling is part of athletics, but Mr. Schulte states our students are not being supportive or appropriate. It is not OK to berate or put down others in a personal manner. Very vulgar swearing was describe

Chris Jenson reported on last night's game. Our kids were pretty intense and received several warnings. One student had multiple warnings for berating the other team/crowd in a sexual manner. Chris escorted the student out for this game and the next. The student was escorted back to his seat to gather his things and proceeded to encourage the entire student crowd to leave, including SBO's. This was the Freshman Orientation game and it was obviously a preplanned

walk out and was appalling to many of the parents attending with their 8th grade students. One parent feels like this is a fight between administration and students. Paul feels that it is only because the previous administration allowed it to happen. Frustration is that students feel like they are “living up to the past”. Behavior of students is worse as a whole. Solutions presented:

1. Sub-committee to be formed to include student leaders and members of the student body, as well as parents and administration. Parents want to be involved and informed if their students have been asked to leave a game. One of the main focuses will be to clean up language all around.
2. Rules that are enforceable and non-arbitrary will be created and published. Adults are trying to be respectful. Noted that administration does not feel they are being arbitrary. Chris Jenson will be in charge of this sub-committee. The meetings should be accessible to students who need to be there. He will involve Wendy Curtis and the SBO's and seniors who are crowd leaders.

SIC REPORT: Molly Welch

Honors Diploma: Counselors looking at changing the requirements since regular graduation requirement will now be 3 years or math and 3 years science with pre-algebra as a minimum, starting with the class of 2011. Will be discussed at faculty meeting in February and parents will be invited to attend.

Emergency Situations: feel like we are prepared. Six faculty members have phones and emergency radios.

Citizenship: Being reviewed since it is no longer required for graduation. Please get comments for the next meeting from the community. How citizenship is graded should be in the teacher's open disclosure. Parents commented that the comment codes are often more helpful than the citizenship grade.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT: Paul Schulte & Chris Jenson:

Child Access Routes: more of an elementary concern. Highland is concerned as we had one young lady hit crossing 700 East from west to east to catch her bus. Bus stops will be reviewed.

Trust Lands: All approved. Formatting has been changed this year. Next month the plan will be presented, in line with SIP. Board is giving us the opportunity to give SIP the way it should be done. Previously this was due in Feb/ Mar, but no testing results were back. SIP will now be done in the summer to be able to input prior year data instead of data that is 18 months old. Possibly due in August.

Boundary Discussion: Letter was sent to the Board. TeriLyn meets with the district next week. Letter has created some discussion.

Attendance: Paul would like to look at different ways to approach attendance problems. Chris Jenson and Scott Nelson are working hard; student service council working efficiently and meeting more students' needs than at any other high school. Still have 100 students tardy to 1st period every day. Administration would like parents, faculty and students to look at attendance policy ideas. A handout was distributed to review how West Jordan HS handles attendance issues. SIC will be discussing, SCC is to get community input. Any changes need to be in place by next school year.

IB program: to be looked at again by SIC. Superintendent has not committed \$10,000 one time to kick start the program. District has committed \$8900 to support the program year-to-year. This is new since our last meeting.

PTSA Robin Larson

New schedule for AB days: a change would facilitate volunteers in the classroom, work and college class release. Looking at ABABA, ABABB. All schools in the district would need to approve to have it work.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 am. Respectfully submitted, Liz Diamond