

Education / Student Life Committee Meeting MINUTES

January 30, 2017

Central Office Conference Room

In attendance:

M. McClure; D. DiPietro; J. Hackworth; L. Ashbaugh; A. Loeffler; D. Tompa; J. Nehlsen; A. DiClaudio; J.H. Robinson; M. DiNinno; C. Monroe; M. Plance; E. Hewitt; N. English; D. Zolkowski; R. Rizzo; D. Zerega; C. Frohnapfel; F. Aughenbaugh

Dr. DiNinno welcomed all to the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Education Committee Topics:

Building principals provided information pertaining to the status of building level School Performance Profile Plans being implemented at each school this year. Focus was on providing plans to improve truancy, attendance, emotional support, and other academic needs. Elementary plans include a focus on flexible grouping, data analysis through the use of CDT tools and targeted assistance programming. At the secondary level, a focus is on data analysis through CDTs, teachers implementing data based goal setting, curricular scope and sequence work and math workshops.

Dr. DiNinno shared student enrollment and staffing projections for the 2017-2018 school year indicating that she felt confident that class sizes would be similar to current class size numbers at the elementary levels.

Dr. DiNinno reviewed class size priorities and indicated that the community prides itself on small class sizes, academics, the arts and needs to add STEM activities to that list now. She reminded the board that the Strategic Plan prioritizes Academics, Safety, Customization, Opportunities and Marketing.

Dr. DiNinno then indicated that the administration, through teacher feedback, has identified the following needs: Emotional Support class, Reading Specialist, Math support through coaching or remediation, enrichment K-12, and a stronger focus on STEM activities at the elementary level.

Dr. DiNinno explained that meeting some of these needs could occur as a result of realigning resources, while others may need financial support. She explained that the administration is currently seeking ways to include these items in next year's budget.

Dr. Monroe shared information pertaining to student needs and the potential creation of an emotional support classroom. Some discussion of how this could further support an inclusionary model and be fiscally helpful led to ways that the monetary savings could assist with offsetting the cost of other resource needs.

Dr. DiNinno shared that the administrative team was examining ways to include and mandate keyboarding lessons at the elementary level using the elementary school computer labs, adding more internet safety lessons to elementary library classes, identifying and implementing a district wide Internet Safety Week, realigning science ASSET kits to include a STEM kit at the elementary level, assisting elementary teachers with taking advantage of the AIU lending library and the ABC Create library and continuing to enhance middle school outreach to elementary students. She also shared that the team feels that there is a need to enhance enrichment support throughout the district.

Dr. DiNinno shared student enrollment and AP course selections with the board.

Mr. English and Mr. Hewitt shared SAT / ACT historical and comparison data with the board. They reviewed measures being taken to assist with meeting student needs as related to these tests.

Mr. Rizzo provided the board with an update on the Student Information System recommendations and indicated that the preferred company is able to break down the costs to assist the school district with a more manageable payment system. The board agreed that the administration should move forward with Sun Guard as the new Student Information System for the district.

Student Life Committee Topics

Mr. Hewitt and the building principals indicated that very few bullying reports have come through the new Sprigeo system, but those that have mostly have been connected with outside of school matters. All matters have been addressed.

The committee thanked Coach Kariotis for his service to the program and wished him luck in his new position. The district will seek a new Girls' Soccer Coach

Mr. Hewitt provided the board with an update on permit and survey needs pertaining to the Hulton Bridge Sculpture. Mr. DiPietro recommended pulling all stakeholders together for planning purposes in an effort to expedite the project.

The board discussed the need for Drum Major Uniforms and considered options for financing. Concerns were brought up regarding budget monies in the current and future year.

Mr. Hewitt reviewed the steps taken to create a Tri-Borough potential partnership through a Peer Grant and district implications. The board discussed concerns and advantages. Further analysis is needed on this matter. The District solicitor will review the proposed agreement.

The meeting adjourned at 9:44. No executive session was held.