

Nevada Union High School - SITE COUNCIL
Approved Minutes
Thursday, December 10th, 2015
Library Conference Room

Welcome: Luke Browning, Chairperson

PUBLIC MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER 3:03 pm.

Members present: Junet Bedayn, Kendall Brazil, Luke Browning, Jade Ewing, Dan Frisella, Mitch Giles, June Gilfillan, Michael Hill-Weld, Carol Lee, Risa Roseman, Megan Ross, Jill Sonnenberg

2. AGENDA Accepted as presented (Consent Approval)

3. MINUTES of the November 12, 2015 meeting Moved by Jade, seconded by Michael to accept minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. PUBLIC FORUM Invitation to members of the public to address the School Site Council with issues not on the agenda (non-action items which may be added to future agendas) No visitors attending.

5. REPORTS

A. Student (non-action item) - Jade announced the following upcoming activities: Tibetan monks visiting the second half of January, homecoming in February (maybe with spirit and unity focus rather than basketball), and water bottle sales in Student Store. Representatives from 25 - 30 of the campus clubs met to discuss things that might unify the student body. Junet reported that Social Justice Club had a great field trip to Chico, the debate team is doing really well, and there have been presentations on campus from Living Well and Sierra Harvest. A Take-Back-the-Tap campaign is underway with the goal of replacing plastic water bottles sold in Student Store with re-useable bottles and placing hydration stations next to water fountains. Kendall reported that Ag teams are getting started up and having a great time with that.

B. Principal (non-action item) - Dan reported that he enjoyed the field trip with Social Justice Club; Eco NU, Sierra Harvest and the Green Academy planted 23 fruit trees - the start of an orchard between the parking lot and B-Wing. Dance, Choir, Drama and Band performances over the last couple weeks have been outstanding. The NUIT basketball tournament is happening right now. Staff has met 3 times, intentionally without administration present, to discuss needs (intervention; opportunity to take more courses, especially if Health and Tech courses become required; longer class periods; seeing students daily; etc.), whether those might be facilitated by a different schedule, and schedule options.

C. Parent Advisory Council Report - No representative present. Dan reported that Dr. Johnson will be putting together a focus group to comment on the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP). She will likely want 6 representatives from each stakeholder group to meet every Monday night in February.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Site Goals (4-7) The District extended the timeline; these will not be due until March. Goal #4 Actions:

There is a lot of information, exposure, and ongoing activity with Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS), and the staff team is still training with NCSOSO. The system may not be perceived as well by students as some think, and not all staff are on board. June

just put out a survey soliciting input from staff and students. Who checks to see if it is implemented in the classroom across the board and uniformly? Jill is not a proponent. Junet feels like its not working - that it's disrespectful to get a prize for doing the right thing. Mitch feels like he needs more training. Megan reported positive reactions from students. We are following the plan, but is it a plan we want to stick with?

The group agreed that 8th grade visitation day went very well - mission accomplished. Dan suggested we could come up with a catchier name for next year.

Link crew is not up to par. Jade reported they haven't had a November meeting. The last activity was delivering candy on Halloween. Link crew leaders are motivated to introduce new students and the orientation day is fun, but maybe they don't realize it is a whole-year activity. Dan asked if there are other student mentorship programs that might be a better fit. Jade will bring this up at the next Council meeting.

The California State University Los Angeles (CSULA) climate survey was administered last Spring and a link to results was distributed to staff this Fall. The results are lengthy; we need to review them more extensively and to compare with California Healthy Kids (CHK) survey. CHK survey is now proctored every year (in place, free). June would like to know how we access past years' results; Dan will check with Suzi Rosas.

Mode of communicating expectations: Administrators went over rules and Miner Code of Conduct with all students (in their English classes in the theater) at the beginning of the year. Shaun Hurtado implements Restorative Justice (RJ) practices with applicable students. The overall staff is not aware of the process and effects. Jill explained the concept is to restore the student back into the community of the classroom, rather than being punitive; repairing harm, figuring out what causes the student to fall out of line. The student has to face what they did & look the person in the eye that they hurt. The goal is to keep kids in school rather than suspending. Shaun may be able to share with staff how to apply a condensed version. Jill wants to explore how several big schools in the bay area are applying this. Dan would love to see the Social Justice club take on RJ - learn how to facilitate groups.

Michael observed that there seems to be a lack of knowledge amongst staff about these (PBIS and RJ) programs. Dan explained that it's hard to allocate time for training in all the areas we need. The group agreed we should add explicit communication of schoolwide expectations to Goal #4 as an action.

Risa asked how we address kids who aren't feeling safe in their classrooms (due to subtle forms of bullying, not addressing all learning styles, for example). It was suggested we make surveys more direct; let students know that they can report to administration if they don't feel safe in their classroom. Mitch and Luke suggested that we have an anonymous comment box so that students can verbalize their concerns. Jade suggested that 2-year evaluations include student input. The new NJUSTA contract changes the evaluation period to "up to 5 years". This was ratified last night but details about the process are still to be negotiated. Dan spends two days per week coaching, spending the day in classrooms. Teacher behavior changes when he's in the classroom, but that might be the start of something. Luke suggested this be a future agenda item: development of a system of confidential feedback regarding teacher-student relations and learning environment. The group agreed we should add this as an action item. Dan described the Direct Communication system used at his son's school.

Due to time constraints, we did not get to the discussion of Goals 5, 6 & 7.

7. NEW BUSINESS

A. Walk-A-Thon Applications

i. An application was submitted by Jamie Wise for tape for Sports Medicine - Dan will find a way to take care of this through site funds.

ii. Megan Ross submitted an application for approximately \$490 for photography equipment and supplies for yearbook and journalism classes. Jill moved to approve request; Jade seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

8. Comments from Council members and public (non- action items) - none

9. Closing

A. Next meeting date set for Thursday, January 14th at 3:00 p.m. in the Library Conference Room (consent approval)

B. Future agenda items

Late Start

PBIS

Site Council Public Relations

Communication/Transparency (If not covered adequately under new business)

How to unite clubs

Intervention period

10. ADJOURNMENT 4:34