

Nevada Union High School Site Council  
Approved Minutes  
Thursday, May 12th, 2016  
Library Conference Room  
3:00 p.m.

Members present: Luke Browning, Betsy Brown, Dan Frisella, Jill Sonnenberg, Junet Bedayn, Risa Roseman, Jordan Horowitz, Mitch Giles, Megan Ross, Michael Hill-Weld, Kendall Brazil

1. PUBLIC MEETING

- A. Call to Order
- B. Agenda (Consent Approval)
  - a. Added PBIS to New Business on the agenda per Jill
- C. Minutes
  - a. April Minutes: Michael Hill-Weld moved and Betsy Brown seconded to approve as submitted. Motion passes.

2. 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) -- none present

3. REPORTS

- A. Students (student council, non-action item)

Junet shared that AP Tests are now over and students are relieved! Classes are working on end-of-year projects and labs. She also shared about the Green Dot initiative and approaching Senior Ball with lots of creative promposals. The Visual Arts department hosted an excellent Engage the Arts evening last week.. ECO NU took a field trip to the Golden Environmental Awards.

FFA has been busy with the State Conference. Some students visited Cal Poly SLO for the Forestry contest and two members were slated for FFA offices at Sectionals. The Horticulture plant sale went very well. It works like a business where plant sale helps to fund next year's class. Ag students have also been participating in the speaker series at the fairgrounds. May 19 is the FFA banquet with about 250 expected in attendance. Upcoming are an officer retreat at Donner Lake, the State fair July 8-24 and Nevada County fair August 9-14.

- B. Principal (non-action item)

From Dan: Vals/Sals night and Scholarship nights are both coming up. There has been a sigh of relief with end of AP tests and State testing. We still have some make-ups and the CST Science test to finish. Next week is the Every 15 Minutes program for 11th & 12th graders - a staged car crash scene with Jaws of Life and helicopter landing on the

field. In the living dead part of the program, every 15 minutes a student shows up and takes a student away. Students go off-campus to team building retreat and write a letter to their parents, parents write obituary, and an assembly the second day will be an overview of what happened and a guest speaker. Senior projects are presented on May 25th & 26th. Digital citizenship lessons that will take place in the theatre.

The Board approved 1:1 Chromebooks for next year by a 5-0 vote. A lot of students attended the Board meeting to talk about drug testing issues, potential cut to AP Calculus B/C, etc. There is a LCAP meeting tomorrow in F-wing. Next week Carol Lee will be honored as classified employee of the year for our district. At our staff meeting yesterday we honored many of the volunteers on campus. Dan said it was a success.

Risa asked how students were chosen for E15M ... Dan said students volunteered

Jordan mentioned that spring field trips make it challenging for teachers to hold students accountable for missing class. He said some of the trips don't feel very educational. He wondered if there was a way to limit trips. How do we put parameters around it? Mitch mentioned that school was more than just class time everyday and the trips were worthwhile. Betsy asked if more notice would be helpful. Jordan said perhaps teachers could coordinate trips for the same day.

Michael asked if the Board made a decision on calculus class. Dan said no, but it would be a decision made on campus.

Michael asked if Dan figured out how to add a link to a text message. Dan said he tried it, but it didn't work. Michael said it should be possible, Dan agreed and added that it would be something that needs to be worked on. Jill added that she was really pleased that the kids showed up at the Board meeting which shows school pride. She said Dan's acknowledgement of the kids was good. The students did a great job.

### **C. Local Control Accountability Plan Committee Report (non-action item)**

Next meeting is tomorrow. Dan asked if anyone had information they would like to share as possible talking points for the meeting. Jill said there have been so many times where planning hasn't gone anywhere. She is anxious to see how the plan will be implemented. Her ideas for Site Council: better freshman orientation, what it means to be a Miner, what's the obligation for being here. She sees overlap with SC and LCAP. The accountability process has to do with letting people know what LCAP is and what is the action plan.

#### **1:1 Chromebooks and implementation. Professional development. PLC opportunities**

Junet: Past two meetings looked at what was important and prioritized mental health, technology and class sizes. They will look at the rough draft of LCAP and finalize with details. With tech, math teacher Mr. Baker taught students how to use spreadsheet on Google. Students realized how much they can apply it to their classes. Dan noted that we need to teach basics to students; it's something often overlooked.

Jordan added that teachers can teach those lessons, but if students aren't applying what they learned, they forget it.

Risa asked if there was talk of teacher/staff training for 1:1. Dan said we've been working on it the last couple of years. April 25 was centered on tech and there is more tech coming. The training is beneficial but a big burden and we need to better support teachers in that area. At least 10 hours of training has been offered since December. Jill mentioned a couple of conferences that teachers could be attending off campus. Tech training needs to be more than Schoology, Google and eSchool. Risa asked if LCAP can discuss that further. Textbooks are part of the planning als; eight year digital license \$80 or digital license and textbook for \$90. Teachers can decide about digital or not. Probably make it optional or class set in the classroom. Make them available at least for now.

#### **4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Last meeting we moved to delay Fairchild's fund request ... opened for discussion
  - a. Dan talked to Debi Fairchild and she isn't planning on using the requested books until next spring. Dan will buy the books this summer and make them available to her. Money should be spent for enrichment, not school supplies. Dan moved and Michael seconded the motion to deny Debi's request. Motion passes.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS**

##### **A. Walk-a-thon requests**

- Request from Sadie Kinseth and Nate Homan for Upfront Magazine and election supplement \$550. Application sounds a lot like the one we received (and denied) from Debi Fairchild. Michael said we need to clarify our intentions. Risa said that, at the start of next year, we need to discuss our parameters for Walkathon funding requests. Risa moved to deny this request and ensure it gets funded through other sources. Dan seconded. Motion passes.

##### **B. Single Site Plan for Student Achievement (SSPSA) Goal #4 - Student Feedback**

- Dan said that within goal 4 of safe and supportive learning environment, we had a task listed to create a feedback circle for classroom experience. Michael asked if there was something in the certificated contract about how feedback is handled. Dan said there is language about complaints; a uniform complaint process. In terms of evaluation language, there isn't anything specified. Jill said there are other schools that use a lot of student feedback for teachers. Ask teachers about best way to get feedback from students. We should look around and ask. Junet spoke to intent ... possible senior project next year ... creating an avenue of communication between students and admin. This would involve working with the teachers' union president and the parameters around this. She would like to see a way for students to evaluate their teachers. If this was voluntary, you'd get some teachers asking for feedback and others not. Risa shared her experiences in a recent class where the instructor asked for feedback about the class, and the school asked for feedback about the instructor. The idea is for the teachers to see where they can improve in their classroom and highlight what they are doing

well. This isn't just to rag on a teacher but also to point out positives. Students should have a voice in what is happening in class. Michael mentioned that anonymous surveys are tough because of people having the ability to make accusations without fact. Betsy asked if it would be electronic or paper. Mitch mentioned that sending evaluations to admin could be problematic.

- Jill said teachers could use more professional development and trauma-informed teaching and looking at students through the lens of what they are coming to school with in terms of adverse childhood experiences. How do we approach children from a very friendly point of view? More discussion of student-teacher relationships ensued. Dan mentioned that it's part of mental health. Luke said it was first brought up as an issue with a particular teacher. If a teacher is belittling a student, there needs to be a process for how to deal with that from the student perspective - a streamlined process. Jill suggested teaching students more about the process. Where do the complaint files go? Kendall added that she likes the idea of students giving feedback. Overall decision was positive for a more streamlined process either digital or on paper. Dan said it's a worthy endeavor. Need further clarification of language ... evaluation, feedback, effective, etc. Several members stepped up to volunteer to help Junet with her project.

**C. Communication Update**

- Texting address doesn't work. Dan will call Donna Nies to see about changing settings.
- Jill met with Pete about creating a central location for posting minutes. Constant Contact was an option. We have an NU calendar but it would be a lot to post there. We need a central place to post information. Internal posting for Diggins. They will meet again in the fall.
- Add this to future agenda for more discussion

**D. How to unite clubs**

- We will add this to future agenda.

**E. Positive Behavior Intervention System - PBIS (added to today's agenda)**

- Jill brought up the Miner Gold Nuggets and whether it's working, comparing PBIS vs sophisticated behavior and social/emotional learning. By having it as our behavior management system, it fools the staff and school into the idea that we're covering it. High school kids shouldn't have the same expectations as the lower grades since high school kids will be moving into the real world very soon. We need to do more than PBIS when it comes to citizenship education.
- Dan said what allowed PBIS to take off as much as it did, compliant passiveness, 15-18 people involved and it's dwindled down to 3-4. We need another surge then things can go hand-in-hand or compliment PBIS. Things can co-exist.
- Luke added that the meetings at lunch have been a good example of how things go well when you look at what we need before making a schedule change

**6. Comments from Council members and public (non-action items)**

- Discussion from seniors to juniors Jill added ...
- Megan shared that the yearbook is here
- Michael said thank you and goodbye

- Risa said it's her last meeting as well

7. CLOSING

- A. 2016-17 Site Council positions
  - a. Will have two open parent positions (Risa and Michael)
  - b. Will have two student open positions (Jade, Kendall and Kaelin)
  - c. Three staff positions (Mitch, Jordan and Megan have all served two years)
- B. Next meeting date set for 8/25/16 at 3:00 p.m. in the Library Conference Room (consent approval)
- C. Future agenda items

8. ADJOURNMENT: 4:32 ...

Minutes taken by Megan Ross, substituting for Carol Lee this meeting